

A Prayer for Scotland on St Andrew's Day

God in all lands and cultures, on our national day we take time to reflect on the influences and the inspirations of our past. We think of Andrew our patron saint, who caught a vision, followed it and enabled others to see it. May we be women and men who follow our vision and enable the dreams of others.

We are grateful for those in the past who have invested their strength and wisdom, their energy and commitment in the welfare of the people of Scotland and beyond - those who gave of themselves in working for freedom and justice for all; those who cared and sacrificed for the good of everyone; those who enabled our dreams and visions.

Not only do we think of our past - we look to catch a glimpse of where you may be at work in and through our country today. We think prayerfully of those in power and those who feel powerless; of those in poverty and those in the place of plenty; of those whose ancestors lived here and of those who have recently joined our national family; and of those who work to break down barriers, create peace and build a better Scotland. May we be inspired and challenged by them to follow our Christian vision in our personal, community and national life.

God within us, between us and around us, help us as individuals and as a nation to show gratitude for what has been good in our past, goodwill in the present and hope with determination for the days ahead.

May we follow in the footsteps of Andrew as he followed the vision of the Jesus whose advent we celebrate.

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