

Wear Your Faith Fortnight

Ideas for Church Leaders

'But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...'

1 Peter 3:15



What do the designs symbolise?

People will have their own interpretations of the four designs, but here are some ideas:

- The **Forgive** design reminds us of the importance of forgiveness and features a beacon of light shining in the darkness.
- The **SOUL** design reminds us that there are over 8 billions souls on this planet – each one created for relationship with God. Recognising that we each have a soul helps us to see our own and others' inherent worth, and reminds us to seek the Lord with all our heart and all our soul.
- The **Lightbulb** design is a new version of last year's Lights for Christ badge – a symbol of our shared baptismal calling to shine the light of Jesus in the world today.
- The **Hallow** design features the Arise Sheffield logo and encourages us to 'hallow' this season of the year.

Here are some ideas for helping your church community make the most of WYFF:

- Talk to your community about their calling to shine as lights in the world – to be Christ's ambassadors. The symbol they choose to wear can help them to remember this as they go about their daily lives.
- Help your church members to think about what their symbol means to them. If someone were to ask them why they are wearing it, what might they say in response? Can they give a reason for the hope they have?
- Encourage church members to share something about their chosen symbols on social media or during a church service. They can use the hashtags **#wearyourfaith** and **#wearingmyfaith**.
- On Sunday 22nd October (the day WYFF begins), pray for members of your church who are taking part. You might like to use some of the prayers overleaf to commission them during your Sunday service.
- A note about packaging - the badges are packed in biodegradable bags

Lights for Christ



Commissioning Prayers

Leader:

Lord God,
You call us to be the light of
the world.
In these coming weeks,
Help us to bring light and
hope to our communities.

As we wear our faith,

All: Help us to shine.

Leader: As we hallow Your
name this season,

All: Help us to shine.

Leader: As we seek
forgiveness and forgive
others,

All: Help us to shine.

Leader: As we recognise
Your presence in others,

All: Help us to shine.

Leader: Send us out to
shine as lights for Christ in
the world.

All: Amen.

Father God,
You invite us to join in your mission to the world
By sharing the good news of Jesus.
As we begin Wear Your Faith Fortnight,
Help us to be your ambassadors in the world
And to always be prepared to give a reason
for the hope that we have.
In Jesus' name,
Amen

Lord Jesus,
May our words speak of your love,
May our actions reflect your light,
May the symbols we wear
point people to you,
So that they too may know
the joy of your salvation.
Amen.

Lord Jesus,
You are the light of the world.
Each day, as we receive your light afresh,
Help us to walk in your light,
And, by your Spirit, help us to shine as lights for Christ in the world,
To the glory of God the Father,
Amen.