



OTTAWA, ON (June 08, 2017)

PRAYERS FOR NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY 2017

Dear friends,

The work of reconciliation is central to the Gospel of Christ, and our perseverance in working toward deep and lasting reconciliation with the Indigenous Peoples of Canada is very important.

National Indigenous Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald, recently wrote that reconciliation “is not just to right a wrong; not just to make up for what was lost—in many cases, that is not possible—it is to try to make a new society. We seek transformation and not just restoration. This is not to dwell in the past, but to shape a common future that is the place where all will find redemption.”

Prayer is at the centre of our work as a church, because it is through prayer that hearts and minds draw closer to God’s loving purpose for us all.

I am very grateful to members of the All My Relations Subcommittee for preparing the attached prayers. Please use them, in whatever way suits, at services of worship in your churches on Wednesday, June 21 (National Aboriginal Day), and on Sunday, June 18 and/or Sunday, June 25.

I am asking you all to use these prayers as they reflect our common concern for reconciliation, and to make us mindful of our part in shaping a common future that is just and pleasing for all.

I remain,
Yours in the faith of Christ,



The Rt. Rev. John H. Chapman
Bishop of Ottawa