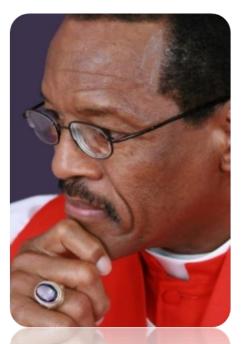
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST 107TH ANNUAL HOLY CONVOCATION 11/11/40

****** *Guidebook*******



Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr. Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle

Call made: 11 Petitions/11 Minutes/40 Days
(October 1, 2014 – November 11, 2014)
"Effectual, fervent prayers of [the righteous] availeth much!" (James 5:16)

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WHY ARE WE PRAYING?

(Unless otherwise indicated all Scripture quotations are from the King James Version of the Holy Bible).

Our movement, the Church Of God In Christ, was birthed because (our founder) the late Bishop Charles Harrison Mason's lifelong goal was to "recapture and maintain the prayer traditions of the slaves." Bishop Mason was infamous for his prayer life.

The Presiding Bishop of the Church Of God In Christ, Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr., is a spiritual leader with the desire that our denomination maintains its legacy of being a church of prayer and fasting. For 2014, God has given Bishop Blake the theme, "Experiencing the Power of Jesus Christ, Pursuing His Mission and His Righteousness" (Philippians 3:7-15).

Bishop Blake's goal is that we experience a tremendous move of God in our 107th Annual International Holy Convocation. This can only occur through the power of prayer, fasting and seeking God. The power of prayer will impact our world for Christ.

The need for prayer today is greater than ever. Our world faces wars, along with an epidemic of broken homes, poverty, violence, sexual immorality and social strife. As the founding members of the Church Of God In Christ did in the past, we must again commit ourselves to prayer and seeking God. We must ask the Lord to bless us so that we will have the fortitude to overcome the challenges at hand.²

It is our goal YOU will participate in the 11/11/40 Consecration (11 Petitions/11 Minutes of our prayer time/40 Days; October 1, 2014 – November 11, 2014). We pray that this event impacts your life, and that praying for our nation moves from a 40 day venture to a lifetime endeavor.

What is the 40 Days of Prayer?

The 40 Days of Prayer was established by Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr., in 2011 to intercede on behalf of the Annual International Holy Convocation. The Holy Convocation is the highlight of our faith's liturgical year.

International Prayer List

While we are praying for the success of the 107th International Holy Convocation, the Presiding Bishop has expressed the desire to also cover the needs of the saints around the globe. Therefore, all saints and prayer leaders may feel free to leave their prayer requests at cogic.p2p@aol.com. These requests will be covered, collectively, by the 11/11/40 staff.

¹ Mason, "Tiny." Date unknown.

² http://nationaldayofprayer.org/about/why-we-pray/. (Accessed, July 26, 2012). © 11/11/40 PRAYER GUIDEBOOK.

WHAT DO WE NEED YOU TO DO?

We need your help! Every bishop, every superintendent, every pastor, every department head; we need you to use your influence to encourage the people of the Lord to a time of seeking God. This year, the Lord has placed the theme upon Presiding Bishop Blake's heart, "Experiencing the Power of Jesus Christ, Pursuing His Mission and His Righteousness." It is the joy of the Presiding Bishop to call the people of the Lord to seek God during the 40 days leading up to (and during) the 107th Annual International Holy Convocation in Saint Louis, Missouri!

What is every member of the Church Of God In Christ requested to do? You are asked by the Presiding Bishop to take 11 minutes out of your prayer time and cover the 107th International Holy Convocation in prayer (prayer list with 11 petitions provided), every day, for the 40 days leading up to (and during) the Convocation.

- What are the prayer needs? There is a prayer list (of 11 petitions) provided with requests to be covered each of the 40 days and below is a suggested prayer as to keep us all WITH one accord.
- Why 11 minutes? This will make it more feasible for all of our 6 million members to participate; because everyone is not a seasoned prayer warrior and the Presiding Bishop requests that EVERY saint joins in the prayer. While many of us can handle long seasons of prayer; we want the youth, "baby saints," and everyone to join in this time of consecration.

Suggested 11 Minute Prayer

- ✓ **1 minute of Adoration:** Honor God for Who He is and express gratefulness for your salvation through His Son: Jesus Christ.
- ✓ **2 minutes of Confession:** Ask for and receive forgiveness for sins known and unknown.
- ✓ **7 minutes of Petition:** Cover the 107th International Holy Convocation in prayer (according to the 11 petitions).
- ✓ **1 minute of Thanksgiving:** Take a minute to praise Him for answering prayer!!!

(If you can do more or less than 11 minutes that's great; as long as everyone does something. EVERY PRAYER COUNTS!!!)

You are requested to fast. Tuesday and Friday are fast days in the Church Of God In Christ. The Presiding Bishop is asking that you use your Friday fast day to petition God's

throne on behalf of the 107th International Holy Convocation. Our fast times are generally Midnight to 3pm; however, whatever time you are able to do within that period will be appreciated. The Office of the Presiding Bishop has provided information on how and why we fast in this guidebook. (If you have health conditions, please consult your physician prior to fasting).

What is each Pastor requested to do? Every Church Of God In Christ pastor, around the world, is requested to take 11 minutes out of your weekly prayer service (every week until the Convocation) and cover the 107th International Holy Convocation in prayer. Please pray according to the 11 petitions. (Note: if you have a daily prayer service, please take 11 minutes out of one of those days every week, up until the Convocation).

What is each District Superintendent requested to do? If you have a district event (for example a District Fellowship or District Meeting) during the 40 days preceding (and during) the 107th International Holy Convocation you are requested to take 11 minutes out of that event and cover the Convocation in prayer (according to the 11 petitions).

What is every jurisdictional prayer leader requested to do? Since you most likely already have a monthly prayer service on your jurisdictional calendar, you are requested (with the permission of your Jurisdictional Bishop) to use your prayer service for October to cover the 107th International Holy Convocation in prayer. If you do not have a prayer service scheduled for October, please kindly schedule one (with the permission of your Jurisdictional Bishop), for just one hour.

What is every church in the Church Of God In Christ requested to do? On Sunday, November 2, 2014 we are requesting that every congregation of the Church Of God In Christ to take 11 minutes out of your Sunday morning worship service and use that time to cover the 107th International Holy Convocation in prayer. Each church is asked to focus on the 11 petitions on the prayer list, so that we all may be with one accord and all praying the same thing. Imagine the wonderful manifestation of God's presence that we will enjoy as the Church Of God In Christ, in all 50 states and many nations of the world, unites in prayer, with one accord! Once the prayer is completed the saints are requested to give God a praise; thanking Him for the outpouring that will occur in the Holy Convocation.

PRAYER EVENTS

- Prayer Walk on Saturday, November 1, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. 2:30 p.m. On this day prayer warriors will converge on the America's Center Convention Complex at 701 Convention Plaza, Saint Louis, Missouri (We will meet at the front Washington Avenue entrance at 1:00 p.m.) One of the features of this anointed prayer service will be a prayer walk around the convention center.
- All night prayer in St Louis on Friday, October 31, 2014 at 10:00 p.m. Saturday, November 2, 2012 at 6:00 a.m. This will be a time for the saints from "everywhere" to consecrate ourselves and to lift up the 107th International Holy Convocation before the Lord.
- **Prayer Broadcast.** There will be a special global radio/internet broadcast on Sunday, November 2, 2014, completely dedicated to 30 minutes of prayer. This will "stream" around the world; so that members of the Church Of God In Christ may join in.
- **24 hour Prayer Chain.** Pastors, saints, prayer warriors, etc., are asked to volunteer to pray for one hour daily for the success of the 107th International Holy Convocation. You are asked to please pick your time, then email that time to http://www.cogic.org/holyconvocation/ to have your name placed on the master sheet; so that we might ensure that every hour of the day is covered.

MEDIA GOALS FOR 11/11/40

- **SOCIAL MEDIA.** The saints of the Church Of God In Christ are requested to use their FacebookTM and TwitterTM pages devoted to push the consecration. The purpose is to:
 - ✓ Communicate the heart and vision of Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr., for 11/11/40.
 - ✓ Daily communicate to prayer warriors around the world the needs of the Holy Convocation that we are covering for that day.
 - ✓ Communicate special answers to prayer to build the faith of the prayer warriors.
 - ✓ Report victory reports from the prayer gatherings which will be held around the world.
- **EMAIL.** The saints of the Church Of God In Christ are requested to send out, on their distribution lists, mass emails to family and friends, requesting and reminding them to participate in 11/11/40.
- 3. **JURISDICTIONAL, DISTRICT AND LOCAL SERVICES.** All saints are asked to announce the 11/11/40 consecration in your jurisdictional, district and local events; requesting the saints to join us in prayer for the Holy Convocation.

SUGGESTED ORDER OF SERVICE:3

For 11/11/40 Prayer Gatherings

Estimated Time: 1 - 2 hours

Scripture does not provide a specific agenda for a special prayer service, so ask the Lord to guide you in preparing for this special prayer service. Below are some suggested elements that might be part of a prayer service, so that we all might be WITH one accord. However, you may customize a service for your group – you have great latitude in what the service is like. Include the elements you sense would be most helpful. Choose from the following elements to design your service or plan your own activities as God guides you:

Music and Singing

If you use music at all, sing hymns or provide special music related to God's holiness, God's provision for our sin, forgiveness and cleansing, repentance and so forth.

Scripture Reading

Read Scriptures related to the same topics. Include others that may call for members to deal seriously with specific sins. Consider responsive readings of Scriptures also.

Message

If you choose to have preaching, use a *brief* message (approximately 10 minutes) on the nature and importance of repentance or on the place of a sacred assembly in returning to the Lord. Keep in mind that the focus of this prayer service is on response to the Lord not just teaching and learning. Use the message to call for response and reserve most of your time for responding to the Lord in prayer.

Prayer

Provide for a variety of prayer experiences interspersed with Scripture reading or times for public response (Please remember that we are praying according to the 107th Holy Convocation Prayer List – so that we are all praying, around the world, with one accord). The majority of the time of this gathering should be spent in prayer.

Testimonies

 $^{^3}$ King, Claude V. Come to the Lord's Table: A Sacred Assembly. Final Command: Murfreesboro, 2012.

Invite individual testimonies about ways God has been working in lives during the service including experience of God's love and grace, a spiritual breakthrough, a victory over a besetting sin, reconciled relationships, confession of new found faith in Christ, and so forth.

Invitation to Receive Christ

Often in history, people have been converted during a time of sacred assembly. With the uncertainty in our land and the threats being made, some may sense a new or special urgency to reconcile with God. Extend an invitation for those who want to place their faith in Christ and provide a place with counselors who can assist those who respond.

Open-ended Closing

As you close the service, invite members to continue responding to the Lord as long as needed. They may want to remain for prayer, continue seeking to reconcile relationships, or to seek out prayer with one of the leaders.

Expense Offering

You will want to ask everyone to leave an expense offering on behalf of the host church.

Tips for Prayer Gathering⁴

A prayer gathering may be devised in different ways and more than one form of prayer may be used in the same meeting:

- Divide into small groups (3-6).
- Spontaneous prayer in the large group.
- Ask specific individuals to pray for specific issue.
- Ask two or three people to pray for an issue, name the next prayer topic and again ask two or three people to pray for it.
- Encourage the intercessors to use quotations from the Scriptures especially The Lord's promises in their prayers as this serves to build one's faith.
- Pray for the intercessors since Satan will continuously do all that he can to prevent them from gathering to pray.
- The relevancy of issues for intercession during prayer meetings is essential. The group has to meet with a clear objective in mind. When this objective starts fading people start losing their motivation to come together for prayer.

www.jwipn.com. (Accessed, July 21, 2012).
 11/11/40 PRAYER GUIDEBOOK.
 Church Of God In Christ, Inc., 2012. Revised 2014.
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Information on Fasting⁵

What is Fasting? To fast simply means to voluntarily abstain from eating and/or drinking for an extended period of time. Biblical fasting is a discipline of voluntarily denying one's self of the basics of eating in order to be available for prayer and communion with the Lord. Since it is an ultimate act of self-denial, you are simply entering into an intense training in righteousness.

Why Fast? Listed below are some of the reasons why people in the Bible fasted:

• Repentance: Jonah 3:5 and Daniel 6:18

• Ultimate denial of the flesh: Matthew 4:2

• Spiritual power: Mark 9:29

• Wisdom: Acts 14:23

• Set aside self for holiness: 1 Corinthians 7:5

Answered prayer: Acts 10:30-31

Why Food? What is the number one thing you trust in for your survival, your very existence? What is the one thing, above everything else, that you can't do without, not only for days but even hours? What is the one thing that will give you an "attitude" if you don't receive it, when and how you want it? What do you spend hours preparing for and is the center of your social and recreational life? What is the one thing that is "a given" in your daily schedule, such "a given" that you would never question skipping it for any serious length of time? Well, you might have realized by now that the answer is food. Jesus said in Matthew 6:33, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you." "Seek ye first," not second, not third or fourth, the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, not food. The kingdom of God is His absolute rule in your life.

Preparing For Your Fast. Take time to confess your sins, before and during your fast, knowing that He is faithful and just to forgive you and cleanse you of all unrighteousness (1John 1:9). Remember, fasting is a time for cleansing. The Bible says in 2 Chronicles 7:14, "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Preparation of Your Physical Body. It is important to prepare your physical body for your fast. You will begin by decreasing the size of your food intake as you prepare to abstain from food.

Examine Yourself. Your motives for conducting a fast will play a large role in the goals you establish. I have talked to several people who have expressed a hesitation to fast

Miles Ahead Ministry. San Diego: 1997.
 11/11/40 PRAYER GUIDEBOOK.
 Church Of God In Christ, Inc., 2012. Revised 2014.
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because they thought they would be doing it for selfish reasons. Some wanted to lose weight to become more attractive or they wanted to fast just to get a blessing.

Selfish or Blessing? Using this same logic, ask yourself this question: "Why do you pray, read your Bible or go to church?" It's to be obedient to what God calls us to do and to be blessed! The Lord has been graciously dealing with you since your sinful beginning. The only reason "you love Him is because He first loved you" (1 John 4:10). Your fasting will not and cannot make Him love you any more than He already does. You are not going to trick or force Him into blessing you against His will.

Social Tensions. A frequently asked question about fasting is: "Should you tell people that you are fasting?" Since fasting is a discipline of self-denial and consecration unto the Lord, constant discussion about it will be a distraction. For maximum benefit, it would be best for you not to tell anyone about your fast. Jesus was against the religious leaders drawing attention to themselves by giving people the impression they were suffering for the Lord (Matthew 6:16-18).

After Your Fast. Ending your fast properly is just as important as beginning your fast properly. Just as you prepared yourself to begin a fast, you must prepare yourself to stop or break your fast. Here are a few questions you can ask yourself as you end your fast:

- What are the key lessons learned?
- What new habits or disciplines do you want to keep?
- What new dietary rules will you follow?
- What foods will you begin eating and not eat anymore?
- What dreams and visions have you seen pertaining to your personal walk with the Lord or your ministry?

PARTNERING IN PRAYER

We will request prayer ministries of organizations, of like Christian faith, to join with us in prayer for the success of the 107th International Holy Convocation. These ministries are as follows:

- Assemblies of God USA, National Prayer Center. www.prayer.ag.org
- National Day of Prayer. www.nationaldayofprayer.org
- International House of Prayer, www.ihopkc.org
- **Prayer Mountain.** www.fgtv.org/n_english/prayer/p_index.asp
- Generals International. <u>www.generals.org/prayer</u>

Why all of this praying together?⁶

In praying alone we can only exercise our individual faith. But, when we pray as a body, the power of faith is increased. Moses told Israel that one could chase a thousand, yet two could put then thousand to flight (Deuteronomy 32:30). Jesus stated the same principle when He told His disciples that where two or three are gathered in His name, He would be in their midst (Matthew 18:20). This lets us know that when more than one Christian gathers in the name of Jesus Christ, there is an automatic manifestation of the power of God.

AN INSPIRING STORY

The Welsh Revival. Most, or all of you, probably have never heard of the Welsh Revival which started in 1904. It began as a movement of prayer. Seth Joshua, a Presbyterian evangelist, went to Newcastle Emlyn College where a former coal miner, Evan Roberts, age 26, was studying to become a minister. The students were so moved by Mr. Joshua's ministry that they asked if they could attend his next campaign in a nearby town... classes were cancelled so that they could be present... At the meeting, the evangelist, Seth Joshua, prayed publicly, 'O God, bend us.' ... the young Evan Roberts went forward and prayed with great agony, 'O God, bend me.' Upon his return to school, Evan Roberts could not concentrate on his studies, so he went to the principal of his college and explained, 'I keep hearing a voice that tells me I must go home and speak to our young people in my home church. Principal Phillips, is that the voice of the devil, or is it the voice of the Spirit?

Principal Phillips answered him wisely, 'The devil never gives orders like that, he said. You can have the week off... Roberts went back to his home town of Loughor and announced to the pastor of his church: 'I've come to preach.' ... The pastor was not at all impressed, but asked, 'How about speaking at the prayer meeting on Monday?' ... at the meeting that Monday night, the pastor did not let him speak for the service, but told the people who were gathered, 'Our young brother, Evan Roberts, feels he has a message for you, if you care to wait.' Seventeen people waited behind, and were impressed with the directness of the young man's words. Evan Roberts told his fellow members, 'I have a message for you from God.

- *Firstly*, you must confess any known sin to God, and make right any wrong done to others.
- Secondly, you must put away all doubtful habits.
- *Thirdly*, you must obey the Spirit promptly.
- And finally, you must confess your faith in Christ publicly.'

By ten o'clock that evening, all seventeen persons had responded to his call. The pastor of the church was so pleased that he asked, 'How about your speaking at the mission service tomorrow night? Midweek service Wednesday night?' Evan preached all week, and was asked to stay a second. ..Then the break came. Suddenly the dull ecclesiastical columns in the Welsh newspapers changed:

The headlines read: 'Great crowds of people drawn to Loughor.' The main road between Llanelly and Swansea on which the church was situated was packed with people trying to get into the church. Shopkeepers closed early to find a place in the big church. Now the news was out. A reporter was sent down and he described vividly what he saw: a strange

⁷ http://www.elimsda.org/article/37/ministries/family-ministries/40-days-of-fasting-prayer-revival-feb-5-mar-17-2012. (Accessed, July 21, 2012).

meeting which closed at 4.25 in the morning, and even then people did not seem willing to go home. There was a very British summary: 'I felt that this was no ordinary gathering.' Next day, every grocery shop in that industrial valley was emptied of groceries by people attending the meetings, and on Sunday every church was filled.

The movement went like a tidal wave over Wales; in five months, one hundred thousand people were converted throughout the country... Five years later, Dr J. V. Morgan wrote a book to debunk the revival, his main criticism being that, of a hundred thousand joining the churches in five months of excitement, after five years only seventy-five thousand still stood in the membership of those churches!

The social impact of that praying young man – Evan Roberts, his surrender to God, and cyclone of a revival that his commitment generated, was astounding. (1) Judges were presented with white gloves – not a case to try; no robberies, no burglaries, no rapes, no murders, and no embezzlements – nothing... (2) District councils held emergency meetings to discuss what to do with the police department, now that they were unemployed (without things to do). (2b) In one place the sergeant of police was sent for and asked, 'What do you with your time?' He replied, 'Before the revival, we had two main jobs, to prevent crime and to control crowds, as at football games. Since the revival started there is practically no crime. So we just go with the crowds...' One of the council members asked, 'What does that mean?' The sergeant replied, 'You know where the crowds are. They are packing out the churches.' 'But how does that affect the police?' He was told, 'We have seventeen police in our station, but we have three quartets, and if any church wants a quartet to sing, they simply call the police station.'

(3) As the revival swept Wales, drunkenness was cut in half. (4) There was a wave of bankruptcies, but nearly all of them taverns (clubs). (5) There was even a slowdown in the mines, for so many Welsh coal miners were converted and stopped using bad language that the horses that pulled the coal carts in the mines could no longer understand what was being said to them. ... (6) That revival also affected sexual moral-standards. Figures given by British government experts reveal that the illegitimate birth rate in two shires (counties) had dropped 44% within one year of the beginning of the revival.

One praying, one truly committed believer, can do more for the cause of Christ, than all the sermons in the world. One truly converted saint – that is all that it will take to ignite the fire of righteousness that will change the lives of many... Will you make the choice to be that believer?

11/11/40 PRAYER PETITIONS FOR 2014

THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Father, we thank You that You have, "reconciled us to Yourself by Jesus Christ, and have given to us the ministry of reconciliation." You have, "counted us faithful, putting us into the ministry." As we proclaim Christ to the nations, touch the hearts of the people that they may, "with one accord give heed unto those things which are shared from Your word; hearing and seeing the miracles which You do." As we minister to deeply distressed and troubled communities, Let there be "great joy" in our cities. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

WITNESSING

Acts 8:4-8; 2 Corinthians 5:18; 1 Timothy 1:12

Father, You have commissioned us to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with all people. You promised in Matthew 24:14 that, "...this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." The harvest is great! So we pray, Father, that You, "the Lord of the harvest, will send forth labourers into Your harvest." Let us proclaim your Good News with passion, fervor, anointing and signs following. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

A DEEPLY DISTRESSED WORLD

Isaiah 10:27; 54:1-3; Matthew 9:38; Mark 16:15-20

Father, Your Word says that, "in the last days perilous times shall come." But, Your Son Jesus encouraged us to, "be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." So we pray that You would use us to be the, "salt of the earth," and the, "light of the world." In this distressed world, help us to use your overcoming power to, "preach the Gospel to the poor; ...to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised..." In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Matthew 5:13-14; Luke 4:18; John 16:33; 2 Timothy 3:1-5

RACIAL HARMONY

Father, Your Word says You have, "made of one blood all nations." Your Son, Jesus, "is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us." Because Jesus is our peace, You promised in Matthew 10:13, "if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it." So we speak peace, among people of all races, nations and ethnicities. Calm the storm of racial turmoil. Let Your Church be the example of unity that is possible through Christ. May all people know that

we are your disciples because we have love one to another. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

THE PENTECOSTAL EXPERIENCE

Matthew 10:13; John 13:35; Acts 17:26; Ephesians 2:14 Father, You promised that, "it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God; I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh." Help us to never lose our Pentecostal fervor. Fill all of our church members with the Holy Ghost, according to Acts 2:4. "Grant unto us your servants, that with all boldness we may speak Your Word, by stretching forth Your hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of Your holy child Jesus." May we all be, "filled with the Holy Ghost, and speak the Word of God with boldness." In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Acts 2:4, 16-21; 4:29-31

SANCTIFICATION

Father, Your Word says, "this is the will of God, even your sanctification." We believe that you have established the Church Of God In Christ to share the message of sanctification and to be an example of holiness. Help every member of this Church to, "put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." But, "fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among us, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks." Thank you for making us Your Holy People. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Isaiah 35:8; 62:12; Ephesians 4:24; 5:2-4; 1 Thessalonians 4:3

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Father, Your Word says to, "that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." Not only do we pray for our civic leaders; but we lift up before You the leadership of the Church Of God In Christ. You have anointed our Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr., for "such a time as this." Continue to "look upon the face of your anointed." We pray for the General Board, all elected and appointed officers and all members of the Church that, "the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto us the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him: The eyes of our understanding being enlightened; that we may know what is the hope of Your calling, and what the riches of the glory of Your inheritance in the saints and what is the exceeding

greatness of Your power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of Your mighty power." In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Psalm 84:9; Esther 4:14; Ephesians 1:17-19; 1 Timothy 2:1-3

THE HOLY CONVOCATION

Father, Your Word says, "Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." In obedience to your Word, we, "gather the people and sanctify the congregation." We have prayed, planned and made arrangements to gather, worship and hear from you, during our International Holy Convocation. As the saints travel, give your angels, "charge over us, to keep us in all our ways." Meet us in a great way. When we come together, "let there be hymns, words of instruction, revelation, tongues and interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying." May we leave recharged, revived and renewed. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Psalm 50:5; 91:11; Joel 2:15-19; 1 Corinthians 14:26

Father, the evil threat of terrorism is in our land. But, You said that You are our, "...refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear." We pray that, "when the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him." According to 2 Corinthians 10:4-5, we cast down harm, danger and violence against Your people everywhere. Your Word says, "Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you." We plead the blood of Jesus over Your Church, according to Revelation 12:11, by which we are able to overcome the "accuser." In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Psalm 46:1-2; Isaiah 59:19; Luke 10:19; 2 Corinthians 10:4-5: Revelation 12:11

A TROUBLED WORLD

Father, our world is troubled because the enemy has, "blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." As we proclaim the Hope of Christ to the nations we command, "light to shine out of darkness, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." Let righteousness prevail in every nation, according to Proverbs 14:34. We pray for the peace of Jerusalem. We also seek the peace of as well as pray for every city and nation that your people dwell in.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Psalm 122:6; Proverbs 14:34; Jeremiah 29:7; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4; 5-6

URBAN COMMUNITIES

Father, Your Word says to, "write the vision and make it plain." You have given our Presiding Bishop the vision and program to reach our inner cities for You. We pray for each Church Of God In Christ to initiate the programs involving: Education, Economic Development, Crime Prevention, Family Life and Financial Literacy. Father, we ask that you would use these programs to, "build the old waste places: raise up the foundations of many generations; and let us be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in." In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Isaiah 58:12; Habakkuk 2:2

REMINDERS FOR VOLUNTEERS

- 1. **Keep all things decently and in order.** It is important that we all pray WITH one accord. Therefore, please keep the focus of all prayer gatherings on the list that has been approved by the Presiding Bishop.
- **2. Respect leadership.** Perhaps you will approach a leader that would rather not participate in the 11/11/40 or have/host a prayer gathering. Please respect the wishes of that leader. We want to live peaceably with all men.
- **3. Work as unto the Lord.** You are asked to follow through on your commitment to serve. You are working as unto the Lord and participating in one of the highest callings in the church (that of an intercessor). Please take your duties seriously and follow through on your assignment.
- **4. Do everything with excellence.** Excellence is not necessarily; but it is first-class. We are representing God and also the Presiding Bishop of the Church Of God In Christ. Be excellent at all that you do, during these 40 days. For example:
 - ✓ Please start all prayer gatherings on time.
 - ✓ All correspondence that goes out to the people of God should be without misspelled words.
 - ✓ Handwritten flyers are never acceptable; please have them typed.

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