
Summer Madness Prayer Guide



Contents

Pg 2
Introduction

Pg 3
Young people can
transform your church

Pg 5
Young people

Pg 6
Youth leaders

Pg 7 - 9
Church prayer guides

Pg 10
Acknowledgements

Introduction

Summer Madness 2016 is just around the corner and we can't wait to see what God does in the lives of the many young people who will be gathering at the festival.

We would love to invite you as young people, families, friends, youth leaders, church leaders and church members to join us in 40 Days of Prayer for the festival.

From Summer Madness Prayer Sunday on Sunday 22nd May through to the festival, which takes place on 1st - 5th July in Glenarm Estate we would encourage you in your daily devotional life, as well in your church services to join with churches across Ireland in prayer.

We are all praying in faith for God to move powerfully in the life of this generation; equipping and empowering young people to impact their communities for the Kingdom.

In this Prayer Guide, you will find helpful ways to pray over the next 40 days, as well as resources to use as part of your church services.

Thank you for your support and prayers,
The team at Summer Madness.



Young people can transform your church

The Church is always talking about young people and the Bible has a lot to say about young people. It has a lot to say to young people. Young people are important. Everybody is important in the eyes of God. But there is something very significant about those teenaged years.

Young People:

Energetic, excitable, argumentative, precocious, creative, inspirational – have a role to play in the Church. They need to be afforded that role, and they need to step up to it.

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

1 Timothy 4 v 12

The Church:

With all its history, traditions and collected wisdom has a rich depth of resources with which to bless young people.

This is what the Lord says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for yourselves."

Jeremiah 6 v 6

The Body of Christ:

A treasury of spiritual wealth and resources – has a responsibility to pass on the message of the gospel in a way that is relevant to young people.

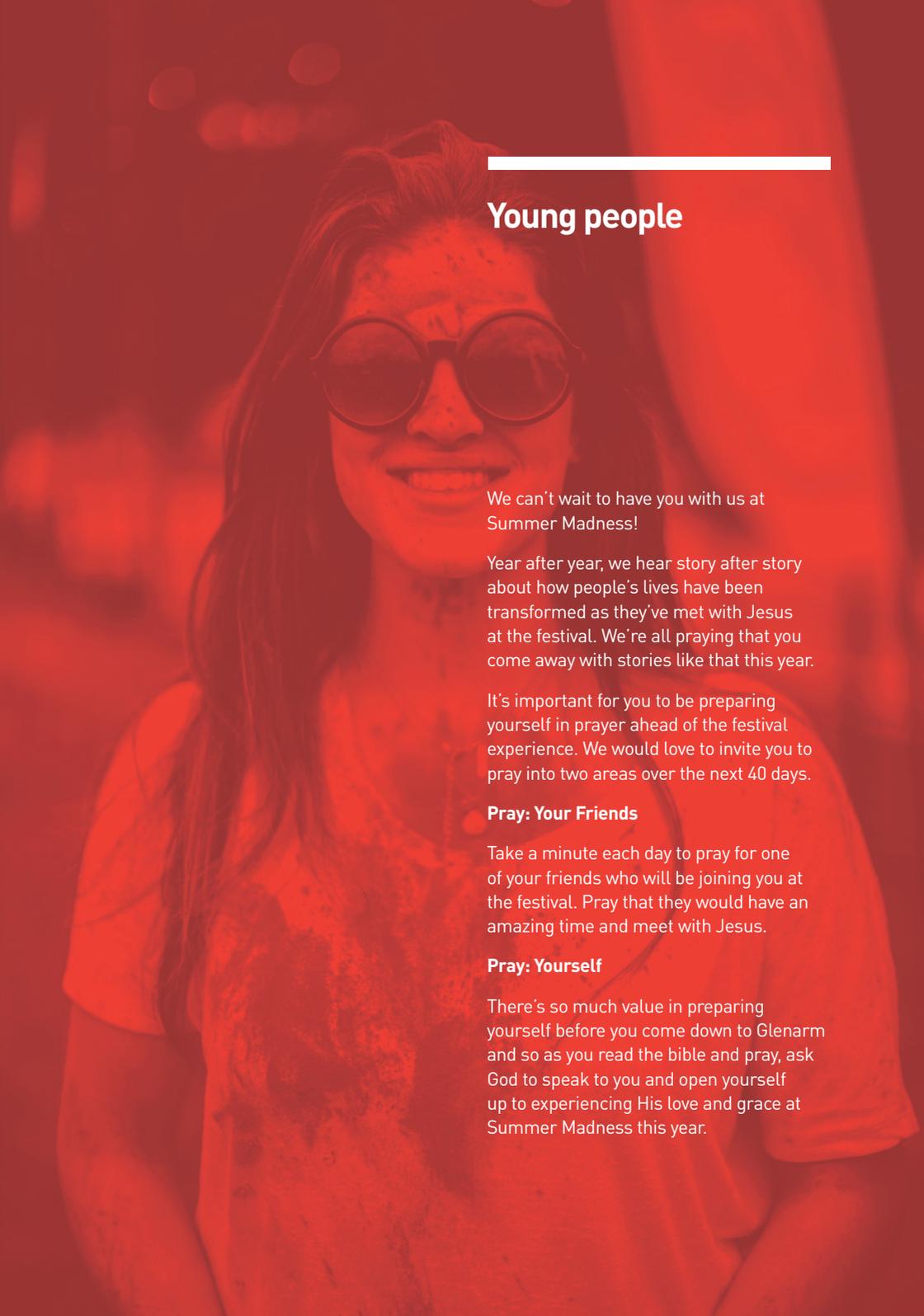
We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

Psalms 78 v 4

Teenage years can be life changing in terms of faith. In a recent faith survey, Summer Madness discovered that as many as 80% of Christians came to faith in their teenaged years. Furthermore, as many as 1/3 of Christians under 18 say that residential experiences were the thing that made the difference in their faith journey.

That's why we want to encourage churches to pray for young people preparing for this Summer, and especially for Summer Madness from 1st - 5th July. Even if you don't have young people attending from your congregation, you can still be praying for those who are going.





Young people

We can't wait to have you with us at Summer Madness!

Year after year, we hear story after story about how people's lives have been transformed as they've met with Jesus at the festival. We're all praying that you come away with stories like that this year.

It's important for you to be preparing yourself in prayer ahead of the festival experience. We would love to invite you to pray into two areas over the next 40 days.

Pray: Your Friends

Take a minute each day to pray for one of your friends who will be joining you at the festival. Pray that they would have an amazing time and meet with Jesus.

Pray: Yourself

There's so much value in preparing yourself before you come down to Glenarm and so as you read the bible and pray, ask God to speak to you and open yourself up to experiencing His love and grace at Summer Madness this year.



Youth leaders

Thank you for bringing your young people to our festival again this year. We are incredibly grateful for your continued devotion and passion as a youth leader. In the lead up to the festival, our team will be praying for your team's preparation, your festival experience and of course, your sleep!

As you get ready for Summer Madness, we would love to invite you to pray for the following groups of people:

Pray: Your Young People

The festival can be a significant moment in the lives of your youth group. Pray for your young people, that they would experience joy and encounter God in a fresh way. It's always important to pray for your group's dynamic, that it would be full of love and laughs.

Pray: Coming Home

Our dream is to see the impact of Summer Madness felt throughout the year in the lives of our young people and youth groups. Pray that the impact of the festival would be deep and fruitful.

Pray: Speakers & Worship Leaders

There are many contributors who will be sharing their heart, wisdom and teaching with our young people, as well as the gifted worship leaders participating in the festival. Please do pray for them in the weeks leading up to Summer Madness, that their preparation would go well and that they would be blessed in their leading.

Church prayer Guide 1

Churches

At Summer Madness, our heart is to bless the local church and we want to involve the whole church in the life of our festival.

We would love to invite you all as parents, grandparents, friends and leaders to pray for the young people from your Church who will be attending Summer Madness.

Pray: Young People

In the 40 days leading up to the festival, you could find out the names of your Church's young people and praying for one of them each day in late May and June. Pray for transformation, for growth and a renewed sense of identity in Christ's love.

Pray: Become a Prayer Sponsor

One effective way to do this is to become a Prayer Sponsor or Partner with one young person and pray for them before, during and after Summer Madness. Ask your youth worker to give you the name of a young person to pray for & encourage in the next few months.

Here are three simple practices that you could use in your church services ahead of sending your young people to Summer Madness.

A Collect for Young People

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in the scriptures you reveal yourself to and work through young people in many different ways. Grant to our Church the vision to make space for young people; Grant to our young people the boldness to follow your path; Grant to all who believe in your name the daily renewal of your Holy Spirit, who is one with you and your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Church prayer Guide 2

Intercessions

God of all people, we give you thanks for young people in our Church, and in our World.

Joseph, in his arrogance, hurt his family; yet his unwavering trust in you meant that these relationships would be restored. Grant to our young people that same sense of trust in you. Where there are strained relationships in our families, speak by your Holy Spirit your wisdom in these situations. Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our Prayer.

David was unremarkable, but skilled as a shepherd. You used his skill to bring great glory to your name. Help all young people to see that they are indeed remarkable in your eyes, and help them to use their gifts for your glory. Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our Prayer.

The lunch of small boy – loaves and fish – was taken by Jesus and fed 5000. With food to spare. May those at Summer Madness see their small offering of time and devotion made great and awesome by the touch of Jesus in their lives. Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our Prayer.

Naaman's slave girl pointed her master to the prophet of God, and he was healed. Help all your people to follow the example of this young girl in blessing those who may even persecute us. Grant that this message of reconciliation will be a message delivered and received at Summer Madness this year.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our Prayer.

Esther was in the right place at the right time. We trust that young people at Summer Madness may indeed be there 'for such a time as this'. In the midst of Esther's human concerns, she trusted in God and boldly stepped out in faith. In the practical concerns of Camp – weather, tent building, food, friendships – help us and our young people trust in you and be prepared to step out in faith.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our Prayer.

Miriam's quick thinking in the waters of the Nile saw Moses prepared for his calling as a leader of the Hebrews and as a Prince of Egypt. Grant to young people making decisions the wisdom and discernment of Miriam, that your will may be manifest in their choices.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our Prayer.

Mary trusted you even as she found herself pregnant and unmarried. Bless all young people weighed down by despair and anxiety, and grant them the peace that comes from the knowledge of your presence.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our Prayer.

Church prayer Guide 3

Act of Commissioning

It can be a very powerful statement to your young people and to your whole Church Family to give your young people a send off before they go to Summer Madness. The Sunday before Summer Madness this year is 26th June. Why not invite those attending (leaders and young people) to be present. You don't need to make a huge deal of it, but giving space over in that service to pray for them sends a really positive message and of course they will be blessed by the prayers you offer!

Perhaps some of your young people who have been to the Festival before can share their experiences.

Give everyone at the service a list of the names of those attending Summer Madness (first names only might be easiest).

At the start of the Intercession section of the service, invite those young people who are attending Summer Madness to come forward and carry out a symbolic act. It may be lighting a candle, or perhaps laying a stone on a table at the front as a sign that they are laying down their burdens as they seek to be open to God's prompting at Summer Madness.

Having returned to their seats, ask the young people to stand and read their names out.

You could then use this prayer:

We pray, Lord, that you would go before these young people as they prepare to attend Summer Madness. Open their hearts to the things you have for them at the festival. Keep them safe. Bless them. Anoint them in the power of your Holy Spirit, and grant that over these days to come your word will take deeper root in their hearts and lives. Prepare us who remain, to receive our brothers and sisters back after the festival that they may continue to find here a place where you are at work within us all. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Thank you

Thank you for joining us and churches across Ireland in praying for Summer Madness. We are expectant that as thousands of young people encounter our **UP CLOSE + PERSONAL** Father, that their lives will be transformed.

We are grateful to Rev. Adrian Dorrian for writing this resource and Alice Meneely for the design.

To find out more about the vision and ministry of Summer Madness, visit our website: summermadness.co.uk

