

prayer[preə] *n*

1. 1) молитва
to say one's prayers - молиться, читать молитвы
the Lord's Prayer - Отче наш
- 2) *часто pl* богослужение
common prayer - литургия (в англиканской церкви)
to be at one's prayers - быть на богослужении
2. просьба, мольба
he did it at my prayer - я умолил его сделать это
his prayer was granted - его просьба была удовлетворена
3. 1) молящийся, молещик
2) проситель; ходатай
4. *юр.* ходатайство; прошение (в праве справедливости)
5. *разг.* шанс, возможность
he hasn't got a prayer - у него нет никаких шансов

prayer

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

prayer [prayer prayers] *BrE* [preə(r)] * *NAmE* [preɪ] * **noun**

1. **countable** ~ (for sb/sth) words that you say to God giving thanks or asking for help
 - to say your prayers
 - prayers for the sick
 - He arrived at that very moment, as if **in answer to her prayer** .
 - Their **prayers were answered** and the child was found safe and well.
2. **countable** a fixed form of words that you can say when you speak to God
 - It was a prayer she had learnt as a child.
- see also** ↑ Lord's Prayer
3. **uncountable** the act or habit of **praying**
 - They knelt in prayer.
 - We believe in the power of prayer.
4. **prayers plural** a religious meeting that takes place regularly in which people say **prayers**
5. **countable, usually singular** a thing that you hope for very much
 - My prayer is that one day he will walk again.
- see** on a wing and a prayer **at** ↑ wing *n.*
- Idiom:** ↑ not have a prayer

Word Origin:Middle English: from Old French *preiere*, based on Latin *precarius* 'obtained by entreaty', from *prex*, *prec-* 'prayer' .Collocations:**Religion***Being religious*

believe in God/Christ/Allah/free will/predestination/heaven and hell/an afterlife/reincarnation

be/become a believer/an atheist/an agnostic/a Christian/Muslim/Hindu/Buddhist, etc.

convert to/practise/ (especially US) practice a religion/Buddhism/Catholicism/Christianity/Islam/Judaism, etc.

go to church/(NAmE) temple (= the synagogue)

go to the local church/mosque/synagogue/gurdwara

belong to a church/a religious community

join/enter the church/a convent/a monastery/a religious sect/the clergy/the priesthood

praise/worship/obey/serve/glorify God

Celebrations and ritual

attend/hold/conduct/lead a service

perform a ceremony/a rite/a ritual/a baptism/the Hajj/a mitzvah

carry out/perform a sacred/burial/funeral/fertility/purification rite

go on/make a pilgrimage

celebrate Christmas/Easter/Eid/Ramadan/Hanukkah/Passover/Diwali

observe/break the Sabbath/a fast/Ramadan

deliver/preach/hear a sermon

lead/address the congregation

say/recite a prayer/blessing

Religious texts and ideas

preach/proclaim/spread the word of God/the Gospel/the message of Islam

study/follow the dharma/the teachings of Buddha

read/study/understand/interpret scripture/the Bible/the Koran/the gospel/the Torah

be based on/derive from divine revelation

commit/consider sth heresy/sacrilege

Religious belief and experience

seek/find/gain enlightenment/wisdom

strengthen/lose your faith

keep/practise/practice/abandon the faith
save/purify/lose your soul
obey/follow/keep/break/violate a commandment/Islamic law/Jewish law
be/accept/do God's will
receive/experience divine grace
achieve/attain enlightenment/salvation/nirvana
undergo a conversion/rebirth/reincarnation
hear/answer a prayer
commit/confess/forgive a sin
do/perform penance

Example Bank:

- Buddhist prayer flags fluttering in the breeze
- Does God answer our prayers?
- He fiddled with his prayer beads.
- He gave a prayer of thanks to the troops.
- He spends an hour each day at prayer.
- He spoke a brief prayer over their meal.
- I said a prayer of grateful thanks to God.
- I sent up a quick prayer and entered the interview room.
- Let us remember them in our prayers today.
- Local groups meet for prayer.
- Muslims attend Friday prayers at the mosque.
- Priests chanted prayers and read from sacred texts.
- She began to pray a prayer of sincere gratitude.
- She moved her lips in silent prayer.
- She uttered a silent prayer.
- She whispered a little prayer.
- Students are required to attend prayers twice a week.
- Thankfully, his prayers were granted.
- The congregation kneeled in prayer.
- The letter was the answer to all her prayers.
- This never had a prayer of working.
- Tibetan monks use a prayer wheel.
- We had family prayers before breakfast.
- Whenever I pass a temple, I mutter a quick prayer.
- a Buddhist prayer hall
- a Jewish prayer shawl
- a multi-faith prayer room in the college
- a prayer for peace
- a prayer leader at the mosque
- the contentious issue of school prayer
- the five daily ritual prayers of Islam
- He arrived at that very moment, as if in answer to her prayer.

prayer

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

prayer **S3 W3** /preə \$ preɪ/ *BrE* *AmE* *noun*

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: preiere, from Latin precaria, from prex; ⇒ ↑pray¹]

1. [countable] words that you say when praying to God or gods:

- Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.
- The children said their prayers and got into bed.
- God has answered your prayer.

prayer for

- a prayer for the dead ⇒ LORD'S PRAYER

2. [uncountable] when someone prays, or the regular habit of praying:

- the power of prayer
- a prayer meeting

in prayer

- The congregation knelt in prayer.

3. [countable] a wish or hope that something will happen:

- Her prayer was that she would pass her exams.

4. **prayers** [plural] a regular religious meeting in a church, school etc, at which people pray together:

- Prayers are at eight o'clock.

5. **not have a prayer (of doing something)** *informal* to have no chance of succeeding:

- He tried hard, but he didn't have a prayer.
- They don't have a prayer of winning.

6. **an/the answer to sb's prayers** *informal* something that someone wants or needs very much:

- The job was an answer to my prayers.

⇒ **on a wing and a prayer** at ↑wing¹(10)

COLLOCATIONS

■ verbs

- **say a prayer** Say a prayer for me.
- **utter a prayer** *formal* (=say a prayer) When she recovered, she uttered a prayer of thanks.
- **offer a prayer** (=say a prayer in a formal way, often in a group) Special prayers were offered for the boys during a service yesterday.
- **hear somebody's prayer** God must have heard my prayers.
- **answer somebody's prayer** (=respond to a prayer, especially by giving you what you ask for) One day my prayers were answered.
- **be in somebody's prayers** (=be prayed for) You are always in my prayers.

■ adjectives

- **a silent prayer** He said a silent prayer as he walked.

■ prayer + NOUN

- **a prayer book** (=book containing prayers)
- **a prayer mat/rug** (=small cloth on which Muslims kneel to pray)
- **a prayer meeting** (=meeting at which people pray together)
- **a prayer service** (=church service at which people pray)

prayer

Freakuency Pack

12500 **2680**^{MCW}

15000 **1334**^{COCA}

RANGE: **2k** PRAY 32400

pray 7379

prays 622

praying 3855

prayers 4821

prayer 12383

prayed 3340

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

6148 **3365**¹²³⁶⁴ *nn1*

18 **181769**¹⁹ *nnu*