# ChrisINFO -24.01.16. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024. Burkina Faso.

Christians are, THIS WEEK 18-25, 2024, Observing the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**. This is **an annual eight days** international Christian ecumenical observance. At least once a year, Christians are reminded of **Jesus’ Prayer** for his disciples that “**they may be one so that the world may believe”** (John 17.21). Hearts are touched when Christians come together to pray for their unity. Congregations and parishes all over the world exchange preachers or arrange special joint ecumenical celebrations and prayer services.

**The materials for the 2024** Week of Prayer for Christian Unity were prepared by an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso. The theme chosen is

**“You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbour as yourself”**

(Lk 10:27).

Brothers and sisters from the Catholic Archdiocese of Ouagadougou, Protestant Churches, ecumenical bodies and The *Chemin Neuf* Community (CNN) a Catholic community with an ecumenical vocation, in Burkina Faso collaborated generously in drafting the prayers and reflections and experienced their work together as a real path of ecumenical conversion.

Christian unity is needed as a source of reconciliation & unity.

LOVE is the ‘DNA’ of our Christian faith. God is Love and “the love of Christ has gathered us into one”. We find our common identity in the experience of God’s love ( Jn 3:16). We reveal that identity to the world by how we love one another (Jn 13:35).

In the passage selected for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024 (Lk 10:25-37), Jesus reaffirmed the traditional Jewish teaching from Deuteronomy 6:5, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might”; and Leviticus 19:18b, “you shall love your neighbour as yourself”. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, **focuses** **on prayer** for church unity.

The material for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in several languages is jointly published by the Commission on Faith and Order of The World Council of Churches (WCC) and Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity of the Vatican.

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