

## Fortnightly Prayer Diary

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2025**

As we enter these autumn days, these days of Gospel opportunity, our verses in 1 Peter 2 encourage us all to come to Jesus, the living Stone, rejected by men but chosen by God, and precious to Him.

### **Monday, 15<sup>th</sup>**

'As you come to him, the living Stone – rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him –' (**1 Peter 2: 4**)

*"Lord Jesus, we come to you today and worship you as the living Stone – rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him. Lord Jesus, we come to you today and worship you as the capstone and the cornerstone of the new Temple, of which we are all a part."*

- Please pray for the Little Fishes and their families as we welcome them into St. John's today – those who have come along many times and those who are newcomers.
- Please pray for our Homegroups, meeting throughout this week.
- Prayers for Ti: he has told us that he has adapted the series about Giving that he preached here for us, and will use it over coming weeks. Pray that it will be received well by Ti's new parishioners.
- Please pray for Woodlands Close (Christine Gees).

### **Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup>**

'you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.' (**1 Peter 2: 5**)

*"Lord Jesus, we thank you and praise you for taking us and using us, unworthy as we are, to be living stones in your house. We thank you that we are a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices through you which are acceptable to God."*

**P.T.O.**

- Thank God for our church family. Please pray that we would love and care for each other more and more.
- Please pray for Hannah as she plans for assemblies and for school services in church over the coming term.
- Pray for your neighbours and our town – for a Great Awakening. Pray that people would reflect deeply on the last few years and all that has happened and turn to God for answers.
- Please pray for Hudson Close (Josie Kennard).

### **Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup>**

‘For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame”.’ **(1 Peter 2: 6)**

*“Lord Jesus, we thank you that you are the chosen and precious cornerstone, a stone which can never be moved. We praise you that none who trust in you will ever be put to shame.”*

- Pray for the Lord’s strengthening for Churchwardens, PCCs and congregations across the country. Pray that all may be filled with the Spirit as they continue to serve the Lord.
- Please pray for our Wednesday Worshipers in St. Mark’s today. Pray for good numbers, good learning, encouraging praise and loving fellowship.
- Please pray for the young people at the Ignite youth group tonight.
- Mission Links: Gift and Kathryn Asiku in Uganda ask us to pray for Kathryn’s literacy team colleagues who have been made redundant due to lack of funding. Please pray for God’s provision and encouragement as they are currently volunteering for a few days each week.
- Please pray for Corner House Care Home (Pam King).

### **Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup>**

‘Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone...”’ **(1 Peter 2: 7)**

**P.T.O.**

*“We thank you, Lord Jesus, that, in the wisdom of God, you, the stone the builders rejected, have become the capstone. You are precious to us all and we worship and adore you.”*

- Please pray for all our evangelical members of General Synod. Pray that between synods each one of them may gracefully and boldly stand up for Jesus, in discussions, in meetings, and in private conversations with other members of synod.
- Please pray for **Bethany Again**, a new venture that we are trialling now that Bethany has become very popular. Please pray that this will be well received, well attended and helpful to all who come.
- Please pray for our Thursday Group - that it would be encouraging to both newer Christians and those who have followed Jesus for many years. Pray that some who are seeking God may also join.
- Persecuted Church: Sudan - it has a population of 49.4 million with 2 million Christians. Sudan has moved up on the persecution score from Open Doors, because it was on a path towards religious freedom, but a coup and devastating war has dashed these hopes. Sudan is now home to the world's largest displacement and hunger crisis. Please pray:- for an end to Sudan's civil war, where Christians have been caught in the crossfire; for the brave Christians who continue to serve the vulnerable during the war; that God would be with and provide for believers forced to flee their homes.
- Please pray for Sherwood Drive (Tom Linnane).

### **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup>**

‘...and, “A stone that causes men to stumble, and a rock that makes them fall”. They stumble because they disobey the message – which is also what they were destined for.’

**(1 Peter 2: 8)**

*“Help us to understand more clearly, O Lord, the destiny of those who disobey the message. And, having understood, help us to be bold in warning people of the dire consequence of disobedience.”*

- Pray that the truth, which is in Jesus, may radiate out into this parish, through the words and deeds of all God's people. **PTO**

- Thank God for all those who have joined us at church recently.
- Please pray for all that will go on in the Church Office today on another busy Friday. Give thanks for all who work there.
- Please pray for the plans for the new Church Hall - that God's guiding hand will be upon them. Pray too for all the organisations that will be involved before the building process can actually start.
- Please pray for St. John's Gardens (Reg and Daphne McLeod).

### Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup>

'But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.'

**(1 Peter 2: 9)**

*"May we rejoice today, O Lord, in the knowledge that we are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a people belonging to you. May we rejoice to declare your praises, thanking you for calling us out of darkness and into your wonderful light."*

- Thank God for our Wardens Team and our PCC members, and for all they do to serve us as a church family.
- Local churches: St. Michael's, Kirby – pray for the church members as they start fundraising for major repairs to the Tower – that they will raise the funds needed, but that it doesn't take away from the day to day church priority of following Jesus.
- Pray for the **Clothes Swap** this afternoon in St. Mark's (4-6pm). Pray for a good number to attend, including lots of guests, for lots of clothes to find new homes and for good conversations to be had.
- Please pray for Coppins Road (Peter and Catherine Mann).

### Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup>

'Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.' **(1 Peter 2: 10)**

*"On this day, when we gather to worship you, O Lord, we praise you that we are your people. We thank you that now we have received mercy. May we all shine with your light and your truth today." P.T.O.*

- Give thanks for all those who contribute to our Sunday gatherings and use their gifts to serve our congregations.
- Please pray for our various services today. Pray that many will learn of God's goodness, want to praise him, be encouraged in their faith and strengthened to live for him day by day.
- Pray for Lego Church today, the first after the summer break. Pray for good numbers – for some families to return and others to join.
- Please pray for Walton Road (Joan Millie).

### **Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup>**

'Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.'

**(1 Peter 2: 11)**

*"Dear Lord, as aliens and strangers in the world, we pray that you may strengthen and empower us to abstain from sinful desires. Make of us, we pray, a holy people."*

- Please pray for Rob Munro, the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, as he travels across the country to help and encourage evangelical ministers and churches. Pray for safety and for strength.
- Give thanks for St. John's Church and for the fact that we can hold so many different things in it – including Little Fishes this morning.
- Please pray for Havenvale today as we visit them for Harvest Hymns. Pray for a good number of the residents to attend, to enjoy singing together and to think deeply about God's goodness to us.
- Pray for all those attending Bethany today and for those who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Pray that we would be able to speak of the comfort that God alone can bring into people's lives.
- Please pray for Southcliff Park (Gerald Millman).

### **Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup>**

'Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds, and glorify God on the day he visits us.' **(1 Peter 2: 12)**

*"Help us all, O Lord, we pray, to be committed to doing good and to bringing glory and honour and praise to your Name."*

**P.T.O.**

- Thank God for Bishop Rob's team, who advise and help him.
- Pray that many in this parish might seek the Lord.
- Pray for the Deanery Synod this evening. Pray that the local C of E churches will be able to focus together on sharing the Good News.
- Prayers for Ti: please pray for the whole Chase family, that they all settle well into their new parish life, their new community, their new schools and their new church family.
- Please pray for Meriden Court (Phyllis Mitchell).

### **Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup>**

'Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority,' (*1 Peter 2: 13*)

*"Make of us, O Lord, we pray, a humble people. May we submit ourselves, for your sake, to every authority instituted among men."*

- Please pray for our Wednesday Worshipers, as they meet today. Pray for God to be at work in the lives of all who attend.
- Pray for Pam and the Craft Group today, as this is the first one after the summer break. Pray for lots of visitors to be welcomed.
- Please pray for the PCC meeting this evening – for God to be guiding all the members, so that there will be good discussions, unity about where God is leading us as a church and wise decisions when these need to be made.
- Please pray for Carisbrooke Avenue (Jean Moore).

### **Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup>**

'(Submit yourselves) to governors, who are sent by (the king) to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.' (*1 Peter 2: 14*)

*"Remove far from us, Lord, any temptations to be proud. May we be humble and submissive. May we model our lives on your example."*

- Please pray for Together as they meet today in St. John's. Pray for good numbers and for good fellowship.
- Pray as, once again, food donations are sorted, packed into bags and delivered to those in need. Pray for God's love to be seen. **PTO**

- Persecuted Church: Nigeria – in a population of 229.2 million, there are 106.6 million Christians! However, more Christians are killed for their faith in Nigeria than anywhere else in the world. Please pray:- for Christians whose loved ones have been killed or abducted; that God would work in the hearts of Nigerian leaders to protect Christian citizens and communities; for the millions of Christians and others who have been displaced by violence.
- Please pray for Hanwell Close (Mary Moss).

### **Friday, 26<sup>th</sup>**

‘For it is God’s will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men.’ **(1 Peter 2: 15)**

*“Help us, O Lord, to love to do and to say and to think only what is good – only what pleases you.”*

- Thank God for The Christian Institute, especially for their commitment to life during recent Parliamentary debates.
- Please pray for your family, your neighbours, your community - pray for vital and effective outreach into our parish.
- Thank God for all the ways that those in the Church Office serve the church family throughout the week. Pray especially for the work of the office today as the next prayer diary is produced.
- Mission Links: Please pray for Mark and Ruth in Birmingham serving with Betel. Pray for wisdom and strength as they fulfil many roles as pastors, preacher, teaching small groups, office work, running a toddler group, organising events at Anchor Point, as well as being parents to Harvey and Sophia!
- Pray for Valley Road (Mark, Caroline, Joshua and Daniel Mulryne).

### **Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup>**

‘Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover- up for evil; live as servants of God.’ **(1 Peter 2: 16)**

*“Thank you, our loving and living Lord Jesus, that you showed Peter, and the other disciples, how to live and to act as your servants. May we learn from you, and from them, about what it means truly to live as servants of God.”*

**P.T.O.**

- Pray that all God's people across our country might commit themselves to live as servants of God, to his glory.
- Please pray for our **Harvest Coffee Morning** today. Pray for many guests to be welcomed in, some really good fellowship to be enjoyed and for good conversations to be had.
- Please pray for all in our church family who are ill at this time. Pray for them to know God's healing and God's strength.
- Other local churches: All Saints', Gt Holland – they have a number of folk who are unwell – please pray for them, for those who care for them, and for the church family to be a support to them.
- Please pray for Brentwood Court (Mike and Sheila Neale).

### **Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> - HARVEST THANKSGIVING**

'Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honour the king.' *(1 Peter 2: 17)*

*"Thank you, Lord, for this day, when millions of your people from across the world will come together to worship you. May we worship you in spirit and in truth and may our prayers rise as incense to your throne of grace."*

- Please pray that, as churches celebrate Harvest at this time of year, many will be reminded of God's goodness and his many blessings in many different areas of life.
- Pray that, in many parishes across the land, there may be signs of awakening and revival – a spiritual harvest – as people take time to reflect on the meaning of life. Pray that churches will seize every opportunity to welcome strangers.
- Pray that today in our services in Great Clacton we will gratefully thank God for HIS plentiful Harvest, and thank HIM that we are blessed in so many ways and that we can pass on HIS goodness to help those that are in need.
- Please pray that some visitors would join us for our Harvest Services, that they would feel very welcome, and they would take time to ponder God's great love for them.
- Please pray for all those who will join in the online service today.
- Please pray for Cross Road (Gary and Anita Newbery).