

Fortnightly Prayer Diary

Monday 26th October – Sunday 8th November 2026

We continue, in this Prayer Diary, to use verses from ***1 Corinthians, chapter 12***, in which St. Paul reminds us that, although there are many parts, there is only one body. *(These verses were also our Mission Sunday reading, which Mark Cuthbert preached on.)*

Monday, 26th

'The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.' ***(1 Cor. 12: 12)***

"Help us all, O Lord, in these confusing and turbulent days, when unity often seems so difficult to maintain, to recognise and to esteem the unity of the body of Christ. Thank you that, although the body of Christ is made up of many parts, it remains one body."

- Pray for all those working to establish a just and lasting peace in Ukraine. Pray that the light of the Lord might shine in that land – and in Russia – and might drive out the darkness.
- Please pray for some of the staff team as they take some time off over the Half Term break. Pray for refreshment.
- Please pray for our Bethany team, as they welcome those who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Pray for God's comfort to be upon those who are grieving at this time.
- ❖ Pray for TDC planning team as they look at the church hall plans.
- Please pray for St Osyth Road East (Tovah Hollingshead).

Tuesday, 27th

'For we were all baptised by one Spirit into one body – whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free – and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.' ***(1 Cor. 12: 13)***

P.T.O.

“Praise you, Lord, that we were all baptised by one Spirit into one body. Praise you that, whatever our origins or whatever our circumstances, we were all given one Spirit to drink.”

- Please pray today for our Parliament and Government. Thank God for all those followers of Christ who serve in the governance of our country. Please pray that they may all work for the good, not of the few, but of all.
- 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 the Stewsdays team as they prepare the food and welcome guests from the community. Pray that God’s love would be felt as the meal is enjoyed and good conversations are had.
- Continue to pray for local children on their Half Term this week.
- Please pray for St Andrew’s Road (James Hooker).

Wednesday, 28th

‘Now the body is not made up of one part but of many.’
(1 Cor. 12: 14)

“Thank you, Lord, for the wonderful gift of unity in Christ which you have given to us. Help us to value, to esteem and to encourage fellow believers.”

- Pray for the poor in communities across the country. Pray for all those who are struggling to cope with the increased costs of daily life. Pray that Christians may find ways to help.
- ❖ Please continue to pray for the New Hall plans, that they will be passed through the planning process without any problems.
- Please pray for Pam and the Craft group meeting this afternoon. Pray that everyone would enjoy their time in St Mark’s.
- Mission Links: Please pray for the OT Lunyole Translation Team in Uganda. Pray for good health, God’s provision for funding and for safety: for Mathias (Team leader), Peter, Benayo, Ruth and Aggrey.
- Please pray for Kestrel Way (Sally Hornby).

Thursday, 29th

‘If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body”, it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body.’ **(1 Cor. 12: 15)**

“Help us all, O Lord, we pray, to esteem, to value and to encourage the different and diverse members of our church fellowship. May each of our members feel recognised and valued for who they are and what they do.”

- Thank God for the continuing work of The Christian Institute. Pray for all the work the staff are currently doing in various areas to promote God’s values in our country.
- ❖ Please pray for our architect, Julia, and everyone in her firm, as they work on the Tender Package to send to building firms who want to bid to work on the new church hall.
- Pray for Daniel as he spends a year working at Fellowship Afloat, a Christian activities centre in Tollesbury on the Essex coast. Pray that the centre will show God’s love as different groups visit.
- Persecuted Church: As we continue to think about and donate to Tearfund, let us also pray for that organisation and the work they do... “Ask God to place a country on your heart. Spend some time listening and reflecting on what he shares with you.” Remember especially countries where Christians suffer for their faith.
- Please pray for Martinsdale (Glyn Horwood).

Friday, 30th

‘And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body”, it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body.’ **(1 Cor. 12: 16)**

“Today we pray, O Lord, that you may bind us together with cords that cannot be broken. Today we pray that our unity in Christ may not be a mere assertion but may be a living reality.”

- Thank God for the recent edition of the Crossway magazine from the Church Society. Pray that each of the articles will encourage and challenge all who read them.

PTO

- ❖ Please continue to pray that the right building firm will be appointed to work on the New Church Hall. Pray also that their schedule allows them to start work as soon as it becomes possible.
- Please pray for Anita and her whole family as they attend her mum, Brenda's, funeral today in Colchester.
- Our Diocese: pray for our Archdeacon, Ruth, in her role to help, support, advise and encourage churches at this part of the diocese.
- Please pray for Queens Road (Julie Howard).

Saturday, 31st

'If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?' *(1 Cor. 12: 17)*

"Thank you, Lord, for the vividness of this image, which has been of such help to many of your people down through the ages. May it help us today as we seek unity with all who are members of your body."

- Pray today, and give thanks, for all those who write good and faithful Christian books. Pray that each one would be helpful in building up Christians and churches.
- Thank God for our Church Hall and all the things we can use it for – especially for our Coffee Mornings, as the penultimate one of this year is held in it this morning. Please pray for good conversations.
- Local churches: Mark M recently met with Mark Holdaway and David Lower to review last summer's joint Churches Weekend. Thank God for that time together and please pray that another one will be possible next year.
- ❖ Pray that our new Church Hall will bring glory to the Lord.
- Please pray for Tree Close (Monica Jackson).

Sunday, 1st November

'During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging, "Come over to Macedonia and help us". After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the Gospel to them.' *(Acts 16: 9, 10)*

P.T.O.

“Today, O Lord, we thank and praise you for the gifts for ministry that you have given to your servants to spread the Good News. We thank you that, guided by you, the members of the body of Christ have worked together to bring the Gospel to those who have not yet heard it. O Lord, may this continue today.”

- Please pray for Bishop Rob in his demanding role.
- 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.
- Please pray for Drew and his family as they gather for his Baptism this afternoon at St John’s. Pray that he will come to know God’s washing, cleansing and new life.
- Please pray for Tea Time Church this afternoon. Pray for a good number to be there - many of the regulars and some new ones too.
- Please pray for Little Holland Hall (Doreen Jordan).

Monday, 2nd

‘But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.’ **(1 Cor. 12: 18)**

“Thank you and praise you, Lord, that you have arranged the parts in the body of Christ just as you want them to be. Every part is in the right place and has been given the right role to play. Thank you, Lord, that we are all parts of your perfect plan.”

- Thank God for all the good and godly men and women who have been elected to the new General Synod. Please pray that God will give them all that they need for the tasks ahead.
- Pray for our Little Fishes as they return today after a week off over Half Term. Pray that they will love being back in St John’s.
- Please pray for staff and pupils as they return to school today for this half of the term, which leads up to Christmas.
- Please pray for the service in Havenvale this afternoon. Pray that more of the residents would hear about the service and might be interested in coming along. Pray that the news of Jesus will spread.
- Please pray for Chilburn Road (Sharon Juniper).

Tuesday, 3rd

‘If they were all one part, where would the body be?’

(1 Cor. 12: 19)

“Today, O Lord, we pray that every part of the body of Christ may be filled with, illuminated and empowered by your Holy Spirit. May every part know its proper calling and function and may it be a delight and joy to each part to fulfil its role and to serve the whole.”

- Please pray for small and struggling churches in our country. Pray that God will strengthen and use those serving in them.
- Thank God for our church family and that God has made us, here in this church family, a body that works well together.
- Please pray for Hannah and all that she does in local schools, as this resumes again after the Half Term break. Pray that God will give her all that she needs to persevere with this work.
- ❖ Please pray that the structural engineer will work well with our architect as advice is given on the design of the new church hall.
- Please pray for Hudson Close (Josie Kennard).

Wednesday, 4th

‘As it is, there are many parts, but one body.’ **(1 Cor. 12: 20)**

“Praise you, Lord, that there are many parts, but only one body. We pray that members of churches across our land will rejoice that you have made each one part of a body.”

- Please pray for the work and ministry of Diocesan Evangelical Fellowships across the nation. Pray that evangelical Anglicans might be united in the Gospel and might work well together.
- Pray that many in this parish might seek the Lord.
- Please pray for our Wednesday Worshippers *First Wednesday Special*, “*Remembrance Reflection*” today. Pray that visitors will be welcomed and all who attend will be caused to think deeply.
- Pray for the Ignite youth group, which we run jointly with St Paul’s. Pray that some new young people will join to replace those who have moved on. Pray that God will be at work in all who attend.
- Please pray for Corner House Care Home (Pam King).

Thursday, 5th

'The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"' (*1 Cor. 12: 21*)

"Thank you, Lord, that each part of the body has value and a function. We pray that each one of us may make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

- Give thanks for all that CEEC does in helping evangelicals in the C of E to work together and support one another. Pray especially for John Dunnett as he takes the lead in this work.
- Pray for Bethany Again today. Pray that the team will be able to show God's love as they welcome those in need of His comfort.
- Please pray for those who preach in our services, as a group go to a Preaching Workshop today. Pray for good ideas to be shared.
- Persecuted Church: As we continue to think about and donate to Tearfund, let us also pray for that organisation and the work they do - "Keep inviting the Holy Spirit to speak into the situations you're praying for. Listen to what God is saying."
- Please pray for Sherwood Drive (Tom Linnane).

Friday, 6th

'On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,' (*1 Cor. 12: 22*)

"Help us all, O Lord, to be especially sensitive and caring towards those of our members who seem to be weaker. Help us to give them all the time and attention which they need and to build them up in their faith in Christ."

- Give thanks for the team that Bishop Rob has built up to help him in his role. Pray that they may all be of great service to the Lord in their work across the nation.
- Pray for all the work that will go on in the Church Office today.
- Please pray for our Mission Committee meeting this afternoon.
- Mission Links: please pray the Leprosy Mission working in many countries affected by conflict, poverty and discrimination. Thank God there is a cure for Leprosy and many lives are being changed.
- Please pray for St John's Gardens (Reg and Daphne McLeod).

Saturday, 7th

‘and the parts that we think are less honourable we treat with special honour.’ *(1 Cor. 12: 23a)*

“Thank you, so much, O Lord, for those many people in churches in our nation who so sacrificially, and graciously, perform the essential and mundane tasks – often unseen. May we learn to treat them with special honour.”

- Please thank God for all the retired clergy who are preparing to minister in churches across the country tomorrow. Pray that they may all be filled with the Spirit of the Lord and inspired by Him in their leading, praying and preaching.
- Please pray for your family, your neighbours, your community - pray for vital and effective outreach into our parish.
- Please pray for all in our church family who are ill at this time.
- Other local churches: Pray for St Michael’s, Kirby, as they try to raise the money to do the very necessary repairs on the tower.
- Please pray for Coppins Road (Peter and Catherine Mann).

Sunday, 8th

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

‘Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.’ *(1 Cor. 12: 27)*

“Thank you and praise you, O Lord, for drawing us all together, as a body, to praise and worship you. May we esteem and value all those who surround us and may we make every effort to encourage them in their ministries.”

- Pray for churches across the country holding Remembrance Sunday services today. Pray that many people will be moved to reflect deeply on sacrifice and on God’s goodness to us.
- Thank God for the freedom in this country to worship Him.
- Please pray as we gather together at our joint Remembrance Sunday Service today. Pray that many visitors will be welcomed.
- Pray for all those attending the Memorial Service this afternoon. Pray for God’s peace to be felt as they remember their loved ones.
- Please pray Woodlands Close (Vic Miller).