

Fortnightly Prayer Diary

Monday 2nd – Sunday 15th March 2026

As we make our way through Lent this Prayer Diary continues to focus our thoughts and prayers on **Psalm 51** – David's great prayer for mercy following his sinful conduct with Bathsheba.

Monday, 2nd March

'Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.' (*Psalm 51: 8*)

"Make of us, O Lord we pray, a truly penitent people. May we, like David, search our hearts and see clearly our shortcomings. May we confess our sins and know the joy of receiving your forgiving grace."

- Pray for a just and lasting peace in Gaza and for good governance. Pray that the Lord may bless all who are seeking to make peace there, and in other areas of conflict.
- Please pray for our Little Fishes and their families – pray for good conversations, good listening and good learning. Pray that some of these families will come to other things at church as well.
- Thank God for our good relationship with local schools – pray that this would continue and grow.
- Please pray as we plan our Easter programme – that it would encourage believers and draw others to Jesus.
- Please pray for Highview Avenue (Mark and Pauline Solosy).

Tuesday, 3rd

'Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.'
(*Psalm 51: 9*)

"We pray, O Lord, that you may avert your gaze from our sins, blotting them out and cleansing them completely through the blood of Jesus. We pray that you may look upon us as those who have been made new through the righteous death of your Son."

P.T.O.

- Please pray today for the work of the Church of England Evangelical Council (CEEC), as it seeks to contend for the Gospel in the Church of England. Particularly pray for the Council's work in encouraging churches and ministers to hold fast to biblical teaching in the LLF discussions.
- Thank God for all that Hannah and Rachel do with the children and young people in our schools and town. Pray for strength for their work and that they would see many respond to the Good News.
- Please pray that the advertising for Saturday's Harp Concert with Catherine Porter will do its work and bring many people along.
- 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 Meadow Close (Barry and Sharon Thomas).

Wednesday, 4th

'Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.' *(Psalm 51: 10)*

"Create in us all, we pray, pure hearts. Remove our tired, old hearts and replace them with ones that are responsive to you, Lord. And renew a steadfast spirit within us, a spirit which will stand fast against temptation in all its forms."

- Pray that the Lord may intervene to bring about a just and lasting peace in Ukraine. Pray that he may richly inspire and bless the peacemakers.
- Please pray for our First Wednesday Special at Wednesday Worshippers today in St. Mark's. Pray for good numbers, with guests welcomed in, and lots of conversations after the service.
- Mission Links: Please pray for Catherine Porter as she prepares for her visit to Clacton. Pray for a safe journey, good preparation time and harp practice as she speaks to us on Thursday and Sunday and performs a harp concert on Saturday afternoon in St. John's.
- Please pray for all the young people at Ignite this evening.
- Please pray for Swallowdale (Valerie Troke).

Thursday, 5th

‘Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.’ (*Psalm 51: 11*)

“Today, O Lord, we pray that you will not banish us from your presence, but will permit us to sit among those who share your love. And do not withdraw your Spirit from us, but rather may He be at work within us, so that we may shine for you.”

- Thank God for all the hard work of all the members of our Church Society Trust, which is the Patron of about 130 parishes. Please pray for their role in helping appoint new incumbents in these parishes, when the need arises.
- Please pray for Bethany Again – pray that the team will be able to show God’s love and bring God’s comfort to those who need it.
- Please pray for our second Lent meeting and for Catherine Porter as she speaks to us. Pray that we’ll have a chance to get to know her better and be encouraged and challenged by her testimony.
- Persecuted Church: Mauritania – in a population of 5 million there are 11,000 Christians. Christianity is viewed as a negative Western influence, and anyone who comes to faith in Christ faces severe hostility from the authorities and their families. They may even have to leave the country. Please pray:- that believers will be able to find ways to meet together and grow in faith; for laws that forbid leaving Islam to be overturned, so all people would be able to follow the religion they choose; that God would protect His people from extremist groups and maintain political stability.
- Please pray for Newington Gardens (Phil and Davina Tucker).

Friday, 6th

‘Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.’ (*Psalm 51: 12*)

“Restore to all your people the joy of your salvation and sustain us by your gift of a willing spirit.”

- Pray that the Lord may give Christians a heart for the poor, and that churches respond to their needs with generosity. **PTO**

- Please pray for the Goggin Family as they attend the funeral of Robert today in St. John's (MM). Pray that they will look to the Lord for His comfort.
- Please pray for all that will happen in the Church Office today. Thank the Lord for all who work there with willing hearts.
- Thank God for all the food bags packed and distributed yesterday. Pray that each one will be seen as a sign of God's love.
- Please pray for Carnarvon Road (Hannah Ward).

Saturday, 7th

'Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you.' **(Psalm 51: 13)**

"Help us, O Lord, not to keep the glorious news of your saving grace to ourselves but rather to delight in sharing it with others. And as we pass through these Lenten days so we pray that we may see many sinners turning back to you."

- Thank God for the continuing and vital work of The Christian Institute. Pray, particularly, for all their work with members of the House of Lords in seeking to defeat the Assisted Dying Bill.
- Thank God for each of our buildings and the way we can use them to serve our neighbours and to reach out with the Good News.
- Please pray for the Harp Concert today – that Catherine's beautiful harp playing and words of testimony will reach the ears and hearts of many – especially of those who need this most.
- Local churches: Please pray as we plan towards our joint weekend, with other local churches, across at Kirby this summer. (12th-14th June)
- Please pray for Arnold Road (Shirley White).

Sunday, 8th - MISSION SUNDAY

'Save me from blood-guilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.' **(Psalm 51: 14)**

"Help us, O Lord, today and throughout Lent, to delight in spending more time in prayer. Help us to spend time in praising you for our salvation and in singing of your righteousness."

P.T.O.

- Please continue to pray for Bishop Rob in his demanding role.
- Give thanks for our links with Catherine and all that she means to us. Pray that her visit would be an encouragement to her, even as she encourages us. Pray for her as she speaks at both St John's and St Mark's this morning.
- Take a moment, on this Mission Sunday, to pray for our other Mission Links as well – in Uganda and in Birmingham.
- 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 Havenvale, Coppins Rd (Dickie and Kathy Wistow).

Monday, 9th

'O LORD, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.'
(Psalm 51: 15)

"O Lord, today we pray that you will indeed open our lips, that we may declare your praise. Open our lips, that we may speak of your wisdom, your righteousness, your majesty and your glory. May our mouths and our minds be filled with your praise."

- Please pray for the Bishops and Archdeacons in our Diocese, that when they have opportunities to speak publicly, they speak of Jesus with courage, grace, wisdom and truth.
- Pray for our Little Fishes - that recent good numbers will continue.
- Pray for all those attending Bethany today and for all those who are mourning the loss of a loved one.
- Please pray for a Great Awakening in Great Clacton... and beyond!
- Please pray for Lancaster Gdns West (Lawrence and Jude Wood).

Tuesday, 10th

'You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.'
(Psalm 51: 16)

"Help us, O Lord, in this great matter of confession of sin, to look beyond the outward appearance to the inward reality. Help us to seek your heart, to know your heart, and to bring to you only that which gives you pleasure."

P.T.O.

- Please continue to pray for John Dunnett, as he works hard to bring together evangelical churches throughout the C of E.
- Please pray for all those we know who are ill, and those who are waiting for treatment, appointments or test results at this time.
- Please pray for our New Hall Project, as both the Planning Permission and Faculty applications are going through the necessary processes. Pray that nothing will delay them.
- Mission Links: Please pray for the Lunyole OT translation team as they work on checking the book of Judges. They ask for wisdom and understanding. Give thanks that their work is progressing well.
- Please pray for Woodlands Close (Ann Woodhead).

Wednesday, 11th

'The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;' **(Psalm 51: 17a)**

"Help us to know, O Lord, that the sacrifices which you desire are spirits broken by acute consciousness of sin. Spirits which are broken and which long to be made new."

- Pray for the work of Gafcon, which brings together faithful Anglicans across the world.
- Pray for the PCC tonight, as they meet to sign off on this year's accounts, before they go to the External Examiner. And take this chance to give thanks that God has provided for us again this year.
- Please pray for our Wednesday Worshipers, as they meet today. Pray for godly fellowship and continued growing love between those who attend.
- Pray for the leaders and young people attending Ignite tonight.
- Please pray for Craigfield Avenue (Pat Wyr).

Thursday, 12th

'a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.'
(Psalm 51: 17b)

"Praise you, Lord, that you will never despise spirits which are broken and contrite."

- Pray that the "Quiet Revival", which is seeing new people come to many churches, continues and strengthens. **P.T.O.**

- Please pray for all that goes on in the Church Hall this morning – food bag packing, followed by Bethany Again.
- Please pray for our 3rd Lent meeting tonight as we hear from Hannah and Rachel. Pray for them as they speak. And let's pray that we will be encouraged and challenged by what we hear.
- Persecuted Church: Bangladesh – in a population of 174.7 million there are 950,000 Christians. Violent riots and political turmoil gripped Bangladesh in 2024. Extremist groups used the chaos as a chance to target Christians, burning their houses. Please pray:- for strength, healing and comfort for the victims of recent attacks; for the believers rebuilding and recovering from the 2024 cyclone; for the brave Bangladeshi believers who live out their faith even though it puts them at risk.
- Please pray for Chilburn Road (Kim Wyss).

Friday, 13th

'In your good pleasure, make Zion prosper;' (*Psalm 51: 18a*)

"Today, O Lord, we pray that you will prosper every place wherein you are truly worshipped and glorified. We pray that you will build up and establish your people, wherever they are, across our land."

- Pray for the Anglican Mission in England (AMiE) and the Anglican Convocation in Europe (ACE), which are dioceses for Anglican churches that are outside the C of E. Please pray that God's Kingdom may grow through their work.
- Please pray for your family, your neighbours, your community - pray for vital and effective outreach into our parish.
- Please pray for some new families with children to join us at St. Mark's, as the Sunday Funtime Leaders would love to welcome children on a more regular basis.
- Please pray for all the work of the Church Office – behind the scenes on our finances, safeguarding, planning events, producing materials, etc., and then also being the first point of contact for people getting in touch with the church. Pray that the office staff will have wisdom, patience and strength!
- Please pray for Severn Road (Clive and Christine Aldridge).

Saturday, 14th

‘build up the walls of Jerusalem.’ *(Psalm 51: 18b)*

“We pray, O Lord, that you may build up and strengthen the walls of your Church across our nation. And where the walls have been broken down or damaged, we pray that they may be repaired and renewed, to your glory.”

- Thank God for the work of all the retired clergy in parishes across the country. Pray that they, too, may be renewed and refreshed as they continue to serve the Lord.
- Pray that many in this parish might seek the Lord.
- Please pray for all those we know who are lonely, struggling or sad at the moment. Pray that we might be able to show God’s compassion and love to them.
- Other churches: pray for growth for our neighbours in Lt. Clacton.
- Please pray for Crome Road (Joy Allen).

Sunday 15th - MOTHERING SUNDAY

‘Then there will be righteous sacrifices, whole burnt offerings to delight you; then bulls will be offered on your altar.’
(Psalm 51: 19)

“Today, O Lord, we pray that righteous sacrifices of lives joyfully laid down in service may be offered to you – and that they may delight you. We pray that we may bring our best before you today, laying it down in thanksgiving and praise.”

- Thank God for all the women, throughout the country, who serve faithfully in churches, in many different roles.
- Thank God for mothers and those ladies in our lives who have shown us love and guided us through life, helped us through trials and tribulations, and celebrated joys and achievements with us.
- Please pray for our special Mothering Sunday services today. Pray that we would be able to welcome visitors.
- Please pray for Lego Church this afternoon. Pray for some new children and families to come along.
- Please pray for Glengariff Care Home (Chris Annis).