



## Parish of Great Clacton



### Fortnightly Prayer Diary

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April - Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2024**

In these days of the season of Easter, all our verses in this Prayer Diary are drawn from **I John chapters 1 and 2.**

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

‘That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched – this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.’ *(I John 1: 1)*

*“O Lord our God, how we thank you and praise you for the glorious witness of St. John – who proclaimed what he had heard, seen, looked at and touched – the Word of life. Thank you that St. John’s witness has been an inspiration to so many down through the ages. We pray that his witness may inspire us, in our turn, to proclaim the Risen Jesus to all whom we meet.”*

- Pray for the continuing work and witness of CEEC (National Director: John Dunnett). Pray that CEEC’s recent leaflet (*After LLF - What Next?*) might be of great help to many.
- Pray that all God’s faithful ones, across the country, might be bold in their Easter proclamation that Christ is risen.
- Please pray for Little Fishes today – especially for those families that have become ‘regulars’. Pray for good listening.
- Please pray for our Bethany group today – that we may be able to point those who mourn to the comfort that God can give.
- Pray for good numbers at Searchlights After School Club today.
- Please pray for Highlands Grove (Mike Cooper).

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

‘The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.’ *(I John 1: 2)*

*“Praise you, O Lord our God, for the power which you exercised in raising your blessed Son, our Lord and Saviour, from the dead. Praise you, Lord Jesus, for your gracious appearances to so many of the faithful in the weeks following Easter Day. May our witness to you continue to be bold and resolute.”*

- Please pray today for aged and infirm Christians with limited opportunities for Christian Fellowship, and for those who care for them - especially for any such known to you personally.
- Pray that all God’s people might know His Peace - that Peace which passes all understanding.
- Thank God for all the love that is shown within our church family.
- Please pray for Hannah’s weekly visits to our local schools.
- Pray for your neighbours and our town – for a Great Awakening. Pray that people would reflect deeply on all that has happened over these past few years and turn to God for answers.
- Please pray for Martinsdale (Sue Crease).

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

‘We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.’ **(1 John 1: 3)**

*“Today we pray, O Lord, that as we hear and receive the proclamation of St. John, so we may be bound in ever closer fellowship to you and to one another. And we pray that our fellowship, in body, mind, soul and spirit, might be a vital and continuing witness to the world in which we live and move and have our being.”*

- Pray for an ever-deepening sense of fellowship in our church – with the Lord and with one another.
- Please pray for Wednesday Worshipers today - for good numbers, good learning, encouraging praise and loving fellowship.
- Mission Links: Please pray for Catherine in Japan, after a very busy but blessed time over Easter, as she has shared the story of Easter with children in her English classes. Pray that the stories of Jesus will stay in their hearts and God will draw them to Himself. **P.T.O.**

- Please pray for the family and friends of Pauline Malins as they attend her funeral today in St. John's (10.45am). (MM & SN)
- Please pray for Hawthorn Road (Darren and Suzanne Cromwell).

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

'We write this to make our joy complete.' *(1 John 1: 4)*

*"Thank you and praise you, O Lord, for the joy in you which pours forth through the writing of St. John. As we read his words, so we pray that we, too, might experience that same joy and that our lives might reflect that joy into the world."*

- Pray that the joy of the Lord might be His people's strength, here at St. John's and St. Mark's, and in many other churches.
- Please pray for Community Cuppa today – for some visitors to pop in and to find a warm welcome.
- Pray for Mark as he records a message for *Talking Times* today.
- Persecuted Church: Uzbekistan – freedom of religion remains severely restricted. Please pray:- for protection for secret believers, and that they will continue to draw close to God; that God will soften the hearts of those who have rejected a family member for their Christian faith; for bold faith for church leaders who are being monitored or threatened.
- Please pray for Towse Close (Stephanie Cuthbert).

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

'This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.' *(1 John 1: 5)*

*"Praise you, O Lord, that you are light and that there is no darkness in you. May we, Lord, each of us, so shine with your light that darkness might be driven out and many souls might be saved forever."*

- Pray that the light of Christ might pour forth from the lives of His people across our land and drive back the darkness.
- Please pray for all that goes on in the Church Office today.
- Please pray as we prepare for the APCM on Sunday morning.
- Please pray for our Safeguarding team, meeting this afternoon.
- Please pray for Branston Road (Pam Dench).

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

‘If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.’ *(1 John 1: 6)*

*“Lord Jesus, you are the Way, the Truth and the Life. Today we pray that you will fill us with your truth. Help us to recognize and walk in the Way that leads to Life. And help us to recognize and to avoid the darkness which pervades so much of our society.”*

- Pray for clergy and senior lay people who are facing opposition and difficulty in their parishes, and from the wider church. Pray that they might remain faithful to Christ. Pray that they may know the abiding and loving Presence of Christ by their side.
- Thank God for Jessica, our local CAP worker – pray for all she does.
- Pray for our Coffee Morning today – for many visitors to drop in.
- Local churches: Pray for Frinton Parish, who have been advertising for a new vicar. Pray for wisdom as the applications are considered.
- Please pray for Frinton Road (Rita Dews).

## **Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup>**

‘But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.’ *(1 John 1: 7)*

*“Help us, each one, O Lord our God, to walk in the light, as you are in the light. Deepen our fellowship with one another. Purify us from all sin, by the blood of Jesus, your Son. And bless us as we meet in your Name today to worship you in spirit and in truth.”*

- Pray for all those who are poor and who are struggling with the increased costs of living. Pray that Christians may be alert to cases of need and may be swift in their response.
- Pray that Christians might walk in the light, as Christ is in the light. And pray that fellowship might deepen and be enriched.
- As we meet for our APCM, give thank for another year of God’s goodness to us and provision for us as a church.
- Pray that today’s Joint Service & APCM may be encouraging for all.
- Pray for those in our church family who are not well at this time.
- Please pray for Cherry Tree Avenue (John and Clare Disney).

## Monday, 29<sup>th</sup>

‘If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.’ *(1 John 1: 8)*

*“Thank you, Lord, for your assurance that ‘you shall know the truth and the truth will set you free’. Help us to acknowledge humbly the truth that we are sinners and are in great need of your forgiveness. Forgive us our many sins, we pray, and set us free to serve you.”*

- Pray for wisdom for all those who are considering full time ministry in the Church of England, and for those whose job it is to discern vocations nationally and within each diocese.
- Pray that the truth, which is in Christ, might be known and loved and obeyed by many, many people across our land.
- Give thanks for our Little Fishes and Searchlights groups – pray for the many families we get to see week by week at these groups.
- Please pray for strength for Hannah and Rachel in their work.
- Please pray for the funding for our Schools and Families Project.
- Please pray for West Avenue (Charles and Patricia Ebsworth).

## Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup>

‘If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.’ *(1 John 1: 9)*

*“As we confess our sins of thought, word and deed, O Lord, so we pray that you will indeed forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

- Pray for all who are standing firm on the front line in Ukraine. Pray that they might be strengthened and encouraged by practical and moral support from across the world. And please pray for those on both sides who have been bereaved. Pray that they might seek and find the Lord in their hour of need.
- Pray as food bags are packed and delivered from the hall today.
- Please pray for the Stewsdays team - pray that good food and good fellowship are enjoyed by all who attend today. Pray that God’s love would be seen in all that happens this lunchtime.
- Please pray for all those who are being helped by CAP in our town.
- Please pray for London Road (Daphne Edwards).

## **Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> May**

‘If we claim that we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.’ **(1 John 1: 10)**

*“Lord Jesus, we pray that your Word might have a pre-eminent place in our lives. We pray that your Word might drive all false claims out of our lives. We pray that your Word, which was from the beginning, might be our light and our life.”*

- Pray that all the faithful, in churches across our country, might be led and guided by the Lord and that He might graciously bless all that is said and done in His Name.
- Pray that the evangelical Anglican theological colleges would not be discriminated against when candidates are advised on training. Pray that all the available training places at Oak Hill College might be taken up.
- Please pray for our Wednesday Worshipers, as they meet today. Pray for godly fellowship, leading to a deep care for one another.
- Pray for the family and friends of Henry Irving as they attend his funeral today in St. John’s (1.45pm). (MM and others)
- Mission Links: Please pray for Catherine in Japan as she juggles new responsibilities with her ongoing ministries. Pray for good preparation time for her preaching in Sendai (5<sup>th</sup> May) and harp recording during this month.
- Please pray for Reigate Avenue (Gary and Rosie Fellowes).

## **Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup>**

‘My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defence - Jesus Christ the Righteous One.’

**(1 John 2: 1)**

*“Thank you, Lord Jesus, that in you we have an Advocate who will speak to the Father in our defence. Praise you that you sit at the Father’s right hand and that you make ceaseless intercession for us. May this truth be of great comfort to us all.”*

- Pray for the conflict in Gaza to end soon, for hostages to be returned to their homes, for adequate aid to flow across the border and for good, stable governance to be established. **PTO**

- Thank God for new members of the churches in our country - and pray for integration, discipleship and fellowship.
- Pray for the Together service today – pray for new members, for loving fellowship, for encouraging praise, and for helpful learning.
- Please pray for all those getting ready to be confirmed and to affirm their faith. (There is a preparation meeting this afternoon.)
- Persecuted Church: Colombia – population 51.5 million, with 49 million Christians! Although Colombia is mostly Christian, believers still face persecution from criminal gangs and indigenous communities. Please pray:- for God’s strength for pastors being harassed by gangs; for Open Doors partners as they work to equip the church; that new believers from criminal and indigenous backgrounds will inspire others with their courageous faith.
- Please pray for Bright Close (Danielle Fenton-Jones).

### **Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup>**

‘He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only ours but also for the sins of the whole world.’ **(1 John 2: 2)**

*“Praise you, Lord, that on the Cross at Calvary you made complete atonement for all our sins. Praise you for your one, complete, perfect sacrifice for us. Praise you that we can call you Saviour and Lord.”*

- Pray for the Archbishops of York and Canterbury. Pray that the Lord might lead them both in the way of righteousness.
- Pray that it might be a daily joy and delight to Christians across our land to serve the Lord.
- Thank God for the young people who are part of our church.
- Pray for all those who work in our office throughout the week.
- Please pray for your family, your neighbours, your community - pray for vital and effective outreach into our parish.
- Please pray for Meadow Close (Len and Marion Freeman).

### **Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup>**

‘We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. The man who says, “I know him”, but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him.’

**(1 John 2: 3, 4)**

**P.T.O.**

*“Today we pray that we may each strive to obey your commands, O Lord. Make of us a humble and obedient people, we pray. May it be for us a delight and a joy to be obedient to you, in the sure knowledge that all your commands are good.”*

- Please pray for all who are seeking a just and workable alternative structural arrangement in the C of E for those who will not be able to use the LLF prayers. Pray for clarity, courage, grace and truth for those making the case for this.
- Thank God for the faithfulness and hard work of all who love and serve the Lord faithfully in the C of E. Pray that they will be encouraged by many signs of the Lord at work.
- Please pray for all in our church family who are ill at this time.
- Pray for our young people at college, university or starting work.
- Other local churches: pray for our neighbours in Little Clacton, Weeley, Gt Bentley and St Osyth, who are looking for a new vicar.
- Please pray for Martinsdale (Mollie Gardner).

### **Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup>**

‘But if anyone obeys his word, God’s love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.’

***(1 John 2: 5, 6)***

*“May your love, O Lord, be truly complete in us.”*

- Pray for the ministry of Readers in many C of E churches. And pray for churchwardens and PCCs, particularly in parishes which are passing through a period of vacancy.
- Pray that all God’s people here might walk in the light of the Lord and might be a great source of blessing and encouragement to those who live in the parish.
- Thank God for another Sunday when we are free to worship Him.
- Pray for our various services today - that many will learn of God’s goodness, want to praise him, and be encouraged in their faith.
- Pray for Tea Time Church this afternoon – pray especially for those families for which this is their main link with church.
- Please pray for St. John’s Road (Anne Gilsenan).