

July Prayer Diary

“Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.” Ephesians 6:18

Pray to the Father through the Son in the power of the Spirit for:

FRIDAY 1 Oxford link Diocese of Kimberley and Kuruman, Southern Africa: For the visit of Bishop Brian Marajh with our other link bishops to our diocese prior to the Lambeth Conference, and for other link visits that are planned later in the year. For plans to hold another link summit to build on the inspiration and encouragement we received from the 2017 summit, with all the challenges and opportunities that this presents.

SATURDAY 2 Banbury St Mary: Serena Tajima, Sarah Bourne, Jeff West, Louise Adey Huish. For our Festival 200 as we continue to celebrate 200 years of the present church building with all our arts events. For our local school, St Mary’s CE Primary, and the headmistress, Victoria Woods.

MONDAY 4 Milton Keynes Deanery: Tim Norwood, David Thom, Linda Kirk, Janet Nelsey. Give thanks for the recognition of Milton Keynes as a city by Her Majesty the Queen and pray for the borough council in this time of excitement and change. Give thanks for the long history of ecumenical partnerships in Milton Keynes as the MK Mission Partnership is dissolved and a new Churches Together body is launched. Pray that the ambition to be "broader and more diverse" is realised.

TUESDAY 5 St Mark’s, Milton Keynes: Paul Oxley. For St Mark’s Meals supporting hungry children across Milton Keynes and the families they work with as they approach the long (and expensive) summer holidays. For resiliency as we approach our 10th anniversary, knowing that we will need to re-invent again in response to a changed and pressured culture around us, that we would be a non-anxious presence of peace. For the children and teenagers who are figuring out lives of discipleship and faith in ever more complex surroundings.

WEDNESDAY 6 Fenny Stratford: Victor Bullock, Ian Thomas. Pray that our mission priorities of community building and renewed emphasis on developing opportunities for growth in personal spirituality and prayer may be fruitful. That an emphasis on traditional worship and the teaching of the faith once delivered to the saints may revitalise interest in the Christian faith and lead to a growth in discipleship.

THURSDAY 7 Stantonbury and Willen: For all members of the ecumenical ministry team. For the appointment of a vision enabler (interviews anticipated in July). For the development of the parish life both as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and as we implement the outcomes of a recent Local Ecumenical Partnership review.
St Andrew’s CE Infant School.

FRIDAY 8 Stony Stratford with Calverton: Ross Northing, Tunji Adebisi. For Ross and his wife as Ross retires. For the parish going into a time of vacancy and the process of appointing a new rector. St Mary and St Giles CE School.

SATURDAY 9 Walton Milton Keynes: Matt Trendall, Keith Straughan, Philip Derbyshire, Ruth Maxey, Ruth Gookey. For the continued fruitfulness of our outreach to the new estates in our parish. For healing for one of our full-time clergy after a serious health issue, and the church members who are holding the fort in their absence. St Mary's Wavendon CE Primary School.

MONDAY 11 Watling Valley, Milton Keynes: Mike Morris, Sharon Grenham-Thompson, Ruth Harley, Ade Adebisi, Barry Lotz and Roger Clegg. For Sharon as she begins her phased return to work. For the Pyramid Rock holiday club, our first onsite holiday club to take place in three years. Christ the Sower Ecumenical School.

TUESDAY 12 Claydon Deanery: David Meakin, Robert Cronk, Ron Aspinall. For Bishop Steven's visit to the deanery on 13 July. For ongoing discussions around the payment of Parish Share.

WEDNESDAY 13 Woughton: Ian Herbert, Paul Norris, Mike Davidge, Nicola Vidamour, Charmaine Howard. For calibration and unity. For growth and sustainability within our parish.

THURSDAY 14 Bletchley: David McDougall, Rachel Ciampoli, Peter Landry, Ben Thorpe, Rebekah Taylor, Jac Butcher, Maryann Brooks. For David's health and that God will guide us in the purposes he has for us as a congregation. For St Joseph's: the right candidate for the post of family ministry leader; the welcoming of new people from different cultures and backgrounds and for provision and guidance as we move towards financial sustainability. For Whaddon Way: the three new home groups; for those struggling with the many changes with the revitalisation; for healing and vision and that we may become a sanctuary for our community and kingdom-centred family. Cold Harbour CE Primary School.

FRIDAY 15 Christ the Cornerstone, Milton Keynes: Ernesto Lozada-Uzuriaga, Mel Krou Assoua, Ann Wilson, Mark Okor. For the intercultural ministry we would like to offer to the 'new' City of Milton Keynes. For the faithful members of our congregation who have started to come back in good numbers to our services; also for those we reach out to through our live streaming and Living Stones WhatsApp community.

SATURDAY 16 Water Eaton: Catherine Butt, Ayo Audu, Steve Hallett, Nudrat Hopper. For Nudrat, who recently joined our team as Congregational Development and Community Organiser. For the schools in our parish as they come to the end of this academic year and especially for students for whom the summer holiday brings particular challenges. For those who live and holiday on the canal which runs through the middle of our parish.

MONDAY 18 Wolverton: Gillian Barrow-Jones, Chibuzor Okpala, Celia Donald, Marian Balance, Hilary Webb. This month we receive our new curate, Francesca Vernon, who is ordained Deacon. Pray that she would settle and find her home with us in Wolverton. For our PCCs as they discern their mission calling following our recent PCC away day.

TUESDAY 19 Winslow with Great Horwood and Addington: Mark Nelson, Didier Jaquet. For the benefice in a time of vacancy, and that the right person will be found to fill the post of Rector. Great Horwood CE School, Winslow CE School.

WEDNESDAY 20 Schorne: David Meakin, Petra Elsmore, Caroline Wainman, Stephen Flashman, Doreen Bayly. For our Ordained Local Ministers, Jane Vowles and Alison May. For all who give of their time in a voluntary capacity across our villages.

North Marston CE Primary School, Quainton CE Combined School, Waddesdon CE School, Westcott CE School.

THURSDAY 21 The Claydons and Swan: David Hiscock, Angela Mann, Rickey Simpson-Gray, Geoff Strutt. Give thanks for the opportunities that the Platinum Jubilee celebrations presented to bring people together again across our ten churches and their communities. For our different regular and new activities aimed at helping villagers reconnect with each other and the church. For refreshment and renewal of energy for the clergy.

East Claydon CE School, Marsh Gibbon CE School, Twyford CE School and High School.

FRIDAY 22 Reading Deanery: Peter Day, Elizabeth Ratcliffe, Mike Smith, David Walker, Mark Burton, Alison Cross. For the process of finding a new area dean and deanery secretary for Reading. For all those being/who have been ordained to the area.

SATURDAY 23 Caversham Thameside and Mapledurham: Mike Smith, Penny Cuthbert, Andrew Storch, Rachel Ross Smith, Catherine Radcliffe, Philip Blackburn, Anthony Wisdom, Anna Clarke. For wisdom post-Covid restrictions to know what to continue, renew, and to leave fallow, especially in our ministry with children and young people as we seek to recruit a parish youth worker. For a fresh outpouring and infilling with the Holy Spirit as we renew our worship, asking God to provide leaders at St Peter's and St John's churches.

MONDAY 25 Caversham St Andrew: Nigel Jones. For our efforts to become more eco-minded and to become an Eco-church. That we may be a people growing in a faith that is honest and life-changing.

TUESDAY 26 Loddon Reach: David Little, Catherine Spence, Chris Leslie, Karen Eaves. For the ministry team and the congregations during our interregnum, and for the recruiting and appointment of a new team rector. For the communities in our four parishes as they return to 'normal'.

Grazeley CE Primary School, Shinfield St Mary's CE Junior School.

WEDNESDAY 27 Reading St Luke with St Bartholomew: Ross Meikle, Christine Blackman. For our Year of Wholeness and Healing as we celebrate 140 years of St Luke's church and seek to serve our parish. For READ College of the Performing Arts, home at St Bartholomew's, for their students and staff at a time of change.

THURSDAY 28 Reading St Mark and All Saints: Jo Williams, Jane Lewis, Diana Matthews, Sylvia Cummins. Give thanks for our developing ministry to children and their families and our young servers' team. For the ministry within the care homes in our parish re-establishing after Covid restrictions.

St Mary and All Saints CE Primary School, All Saints CE Infant School.

FRIDAY 29 Reading St Mary the Virgin: Sonya Wratten, Judith Sumner, Andrew Bond, Richard Ashfield, Niall Collier, Alan Race, Ann Cogle. For the ministry team and volunteers at Reading Minster welcoming people daily for a time of quiet, prayer and a listening ear. For the music at Reading Minster, for its development in the future, for vision and inspiration, for all those who offer their musical talents and gifts to the glory of God. Give thanks also for our bellringers as they celebrate anniversaries of service in the church community.

SATURDAY 30 Reading St Matthew: Pads Dolphin, Kirstie Dolphin, Lynn Everett. For the new Southcote Community Street Pastors, headed up by St Matthew's. For a reduction in the level of antisocial behaviour, vandalism, drug dealing, etc. that has been particularly bad this year.

Prayer on Sundays

SUNDAY 3 For all those involved in New Congregations Greenhouses, that their focus on growing the church would bear fruit.

SUNDAY 10 For the refugees being welcomed into homes in the diocese, for their hosts, and for all who are supporting refugees.

SUNDAY 17 On Disability Awareness Day we pray about our own awareness of people with disabilities, their gifts and their needs.

SUNDAY 24 For the Lambeth Conference, starting this week.

SUNDAY 31 For sensitivity to God's guidance in our actions to be environmentally friendly.

Links

Prayers from Christian Concern for One World: ccow.org.uk/weekly-prayer-email

Topical prayers from the Church of England:
churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/topical-prayers