

Parish Prayer Diary

November – December 2020



Prayer Focus: Now in England's second lockdown, we look back at God's goodness in the past, and pray that He will give us His protection, courage and compassion for others.

**Let's begin by praying together -
in our own homes or on Zoom at our Parish Prayer Meeting
on Tuesday 17th November at 7pm**

Great is thy Faithfulness

"Great is Thy faithfulness, " O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
"Great is Thy faithfulness, " Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
"Great is Thy faithfulness, " Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"

Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
"Great is Thy faithfulness, " Lord, unto me!

Today's prayers have been based on the 'Prayer for the Nation' produced by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York for the month of Prayer for the Nation during the second lockdown.

Prayers for our world

We are aware that many of us are relatively comfortable in this country, and have access to warm homes, open spaces and good healthcare. Many countries of the world are not so fortunate, and the pandemic adds further misery to people's lives.

We pray for:

Countries of Africa and South America.

The Yemen, where armed conflict has resulted in the largest humanitarian crisis in the world.

Afghanistan, where bombings are regular occurrences, and people are having to deal with a raging war.

For all refugees everywhere, those desperate to escape cruel regimes and impossible circumstances.

We also pray for the people of the United States of America, in the weeks after the presidential election.

Prayers for our country and our people

“May the Lord fill your hearts with God’s love. May Christ give you the strength to go on.”

For our national and local government. We pray for all those in positions of authority, that God would give great wisdom, deep commitment to all and right judgement.

For businesses the workplace and economic wellbeing. We pray for those whose businesses are closed, and those who have lost their jobs and incomes and who face an uncertain future.

For the NHS. We voice our gratitude for those who serve this country in the NHS and pray that God would prosper the work of their hands – that they would all be encouraged in their continued work of sacrifice and care amongst us.

For schools and colleges, children and young people. We pray for all those involved in the shaping of young lives. We give thanks for their commitment and ask that all might be nurtured and cared for, that all lives may flourish even in these difficult times.

Prayers for our church and our community, and for people known to us personally

“Give praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! He is the Father who gives tender love. All comfort comes from him.”
2 Corinthians: 1 v 3

For all who are grieving, and all suffering with physical and mental ill-health. We ask that in God’s great loving kindness they might know God’s sustaining presence amidst their pain.

For family, friends and loved ones. We pray that when loved ones cannot physically be together, they would not feel apart.

For the elderly, isolated and vulnerable. We pray for their deliverance, protection and comfort and pray for all those who care for them.

For our younger families, and for the events that they are planning for the Advent and Christmas period.

For Paul and Alison. We ask for strength for them in these unprecedented times for the church.

We pray for our Mission partners, and the situations they are in:

- for Azaria in Guatemala
- for Paul & Kate and the children in the Middle East
- for Tony & Katherine and the children in South East Asia
- for CCMP (Church and Community Mobilisation Process) in Berega, and for Gideon, the Coordinator, and for Isaac & Ruth Mgego

And our prayers for those with on-going needs:

Julie Astle	Michael & Daphne Bellamy
Doreen Bennett	Rosie Bjelland
Anne Bladen	Barbara Brown
Vickie Brown	Dorothy Bush
Chevonne & Leo Elbourne	Jenni & Ed Elbourne
Betty Ellery	Gill Fazey
Frankie Hall	Gillian Hallam
Keith & Beverley Holloway	Claire Morrell
Frances Pearson	Kathleen & Albert Phillips
Mary Plackett	Richard & Rita Portwood
Dorothy Roberts	Michael Smith
David & Jean Ward	Gill and David Wilmot
Liz Wiseman	

Lord, Jesus Christ. In these dark and difficult days, turn our face towards us, have mercy upon us, and heal our land, we pray. Amen