

Parish Prayer Diary

(March 2021 – April 2021)



"Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Mark 8:34 (NIV)

Lenten Prayer

Lent is a time of reflection, of repentance, of preparation, and an opportunity to go deeper with God. It is a journey, or process, rather than one single event. As we journey together along the same road, let us use these prayer suggestions to inspire us in our spiritual growth, and prepare us to unite in the great events of Holy Week and Easter.

Prayers of Preparation Throughout Lent Towards Easter

Remind us often Lord, when we are feeling proud, arrogant, beyond reproach, pleased with ourselves, self-sufficient in our ways, that for such as us and better and worse you walked a road that took you to a cruel cross, and rose again to show us where we might look for rescue as from this lofty perch we fall. Amen.

Forgive those things we have done which have caused you sadness, and those things we should have done that would have brought you joy. In both we have failed ourselves, and you. Bring us back to that place where our journey began, when we said that we would follow the way that you first trod. Lead us to the Cross and meet us there. Amen.

Your Word reveals to us a simple truth, that sin entered this world through human folly in believing we could be like you, and permeated history through envy, selfishness and greed. Yet sin, which holds us tight within its grasp cannot resist a heart that is touched by your grace through Jesus Christ, cannot contend with Living Water pouring into hearts and souls. Your Word reveals to us a simple truth, that sin is defeated and we can become the people we were always meant to be, by your grace through Jesus Christ. Amen.

As we walk with Jesus along the road to the cross, may we remember that which lay ahead of Him, and the terrible cost of paying the price for our sin, so that we might recognise and celebrate the full significance of Easter, and rise with Him through death into new life. Amen.

Prayers around Global, National and Parish Issues

Pray for those areas of our world where conflict is all too easily expressed in violence between differing groups of people.

Pray for all those around the world who work tirelessly to see Your name glorified. Pray for their protection from evil, especially those who serve as our link mission partners.

Pray for the nations of our world to rediscover the benefits afforded by working together rather than in conflict and opposition to one another.

Pray for a renewed sense of positivity and hopefulness rather than the destructive negativity which appears so prominent; especially within the media at this time.

Pray for a secure resolution to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic: For doctors, nurses and support staff as they care for those who are suffering, for an effective roll-out of the vaccine programme – both here in the UK and in poorer developing countries, that they may not be overlooked, for the Government and their scientific advisers, for those who have lost loved ones as a result of the virus, and for those who live in fear of falling under its grip.

Pray for our nation as we start to return to a new normal, that we may recover from the severe effects of the recent lockdowns.

Pray for our parish, that as we seek to serve our local community, we may be open to discern and implement fresh ways of being Your Church for all people, and instead of simply returning to what went before, we might be imaginative in how we move forwards.

Pray for all those who are fearful of the future.

Pray for all those who have recently lost a loved one.

Pray for those who are seriously unwell at this time.

Give thanks to the Lord for the many times he has heard and responded to our prayers.

Prayers for those with on-going needs, especially those with on-going health issues:

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

We remember in prayer the residents and businesses located within the parish in the following roads:

- Arundel Drive
- Balmoral Drive
- Bankfield Drive
- Baulk Lane & Eleanor Crescent
- Beeston Fields Drive
- Bembridge Court
- Bramwell Drive
(Including Fieldcare Close and Siskin Close)
- Briar Close
- Burnside Drive & Cranston Road
- Buttermere Drive
- Carwood Drive
- Chapel Street
- Chapel Mews Court
- Charlotte Grove & Tracy Close
- Chesham Drive
- Bridle Road