



Christ Church Abingdon

"With Jesus. Like Jesus. For Jesus"

PRAAYER DIARY APRIL 2021

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. *Hebrews 12:1,2 (NIV)*

SUNDAY 28 MARCH: PALM SUNDAY: 9am HC from BCP (video); 10am HEROES children and families' video: Jesus is a hero who defeated death! (Resurrection); NCR 10.30am "The King" *John 18:28-40* with David Tyler (Livestream); LF 10.30am "The Triumphal Entry" *John 12:12-16* with Pamela Shirras (Zoom). 6.30pm "The mystery of marriage" *Ephesians 5:22-32* with Keith Dunnett (Zoom). Chris Parkman (Mission Partner with wife Sarah Walker, A Rocha, France) is leading the Palm Sunday service and preaching at St Hugh's Anglican Church (Vence) and then Holy Trinity Anglican Church (Nice). Apprentice (Year 5 & 6 life group) on Zoom at 4.30pm for an Easter themed craft-a-long. LF Sunday social at 4pm. CCA Easter Trail starts today (ends Easter Sunday). Trail areas: Rush Common, Long Furlong, Wootton Road and South Avenue. Mission of the Month for March: Martin Riddall, Armed Forces Christian Union.

MONDAY 29 MARCH: HOLY WEEK: *Short Bible reflection on Zoom at 1pm.* Pray for the staff team; pray for Keith Dunnett, our vicar. Pray for our linked primary schools (Dunmore, Long Furlong, Rush Common, St Nicolas) as they finish midweek for the Easter holidays. Pray for secondary school pupils, college and university students, for young people's mental and physical health. Church Walk this morning from Steventon, led by Sue Robbins. Foodbank steering group meets today. MSG meeting at 8.00 pm on Zoom. CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS: After Eight and Barnabas Life Group. CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES: Sarah Brombley, Primary School Teacher

TUESDAY 30 MARCH: HOLY WEEK: *Short Bible reflection on Zoom at 1pm.* Pray for Heather Hughes, Children's Minister. FOOTPRINTS: The team will be

delivering the April newsletter on Wednesday and Thursday, with a small gift of mini Easter Eggs. We'll see people face to face and share personal Easter greetings. **FOODBANK open today:** Foodbank continues to run smoothly, with committed team members, and fantastic support from our contributors.

LF COFFEE BREAK: Some Coffee Break members are hoping to meet outside in groups of 6 for the first time since the autumn. Please pray for good weather. **Doris Gordon's funeral** today at 2 pm; give thanks for Doris's life of Christian witness and pray for her family. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Bible Journalling and Bingham Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Chris Bryan, The Abingdon Bridge

WEDNESDAY 31 MARCH: HOLY WEEK: *Short Bible reflection on Zoom at 1pm.* Pray for **Bea Ellaby**, Youth Pastor. **Wednesday 8am prayer meeting** by Zoom. **LINK on Zoom** - Easter Celebration. **South Abingdon FOODBANK** open today 12.30 - 3pm in the Preston Road Community Centre. **JESUS LIFESTYLE Course** this evening. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** LF Coffee Break and Coffee Cake and Chat. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Anthony Buckle, Teacher (Special needs)

THURSDAY 01 APRIL: MAUNDY THURSDAY: *A quiet day led by Ros, with 4 short times of input throughout the day, an opportunity to join in with baking bread and HC at 7.30pm on Zoom.* Pray for **Clint McVea**, Operations Manager. **THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP:** Pray that as we wonder afresh at the beauty of Springtime around us, we will have grateful hearts for God's creation, His mercy and faithfulness to us and the gift of new life in Jesus. **FOOTPRINTS Team** delivering the monthly newsletter today with a small gift. Rosemary Green has written our 2021 Easter letter on the anniversary of the first letter sent out in lockdown, which she also wrote. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Didcot Life Group and Dubock Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Kelly Burchmore, Archivist

FRIDAY 02 APRIL: GOOD FRIDAY: *Good Friday Celebration at 10am on Zoom. An Hour at the Cross at 2pm, Livestream on CCA YouTube.* Pray for **Suzie Miles**, Church Administrator and Vicar's PA. **FOODBANK** open today, giving out Hot Cross Buns and Easter Eggs, as a reminder of the Easter message. **Online prayer** for the Abingdon Foodbanks between 10:30 and 11:30am today. **John Owen and the Alpha team: HMP Bullingdon-** There is still no sign of getting back into the prison. The Ministry of Justice has said that prisoners will be vaccinated with their age groups so it will be at least summer before the team gets close to returning. **CHRIST CHURCH**

NETWORKS: Earwicker Life Group and Faith and Cake Life Group **CHRIST**

CHURCH FRONTLINES: Jane Carpenter, Midwife/Lecturer

SATURDAY 03 APRIL: EASTER SATURDAY: Easter Giveaway outside Long Furlong Community Centre from 10am to 12 noon. **Sarah and Jason Thomas** (Mission Partners, Dubai) write “There’s a student “Pizza in the Park” event before church today. Pray for good conversations with the new students and for many to come to church afterwards.” **Prayer request from Peter and Jane Dunn** (Mission Partners, Biglife, Sheffield): Give praise for new opportunities to share the vision of disciple making across the UK. Pray too for the vision to take root and for the Lord to send out workers into the harvest fields (*Luke 10:2*). **Pray for those with caring responsibilities and those who are vulnerable because of long-term illness or disability:** Joy Batty, Paula Beal, Mike Bowles, Caroline & Ellen Craig, Pamela Fitt, Veronica Harden, Peter & Eileen Jeffries, Alan & Doreen Newton, Andy & Sue Porter, David & Barbara Price, Debbie Purbrick, Chris Rowe, Audrey Sibbett, Brian Stanmore, Sheila Tubb, Nessa Watts and other church members who are ill, housebound, or recently bereaved.

SUNDAY 04 APRIL: EASTER SUNDAY: At NCR, All Age Easter Celebrations (Livestream) at 10.30am. At LF Easter “bring and share” Celebration and Communion on Zoom at 10.30am. 6.30pm Easter Celebration on Zoom. CCA Easter Trail ends today. April Mission of the Month: Peter and Jane Dunn.

MONDAY 05 APRIL: EASTER MONDAY Pray for Kath and Phil Cooke, Associate Vicars. Please do pray for us all to know God's love, hope and refreshing over this Easter period. **Elections for the PCC** are coming up - pray for people to be open to the Lord’s leading to stand/be nominated. **School Easter Trails begin**, organised by St Nicolas and Dunmore Primary Schools, finishing on 18 April. **The worldwide A Rocha family** would appreciate prayer for the Easter Appeal for Species at Risk. Gifts will support A Rocha’s conservation work in several countries. The appeal is running until 4 May.

<https://justgiving.com/campaign/conservation-works> **CHRIST CHURCH**

NETWORKS: Fitzharrys Network and Footprints (includes Bible Study group).

CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES: Val Challis, Nurse

TUESDAY 06 APRIL: Pray for Matt Dobie, Digital Production Manager. **LF COFFEE BREAK:** Members are thankful for the mutual support the group has provided over the last year and ask for wisdom in how they continue to adapt as restrictions are gradually eased. **ARCHWAY’s Peer Support Group** meets at midday via Zoom. Give thanks for all who are providing telephone

support at this time, for their own health and well-being to be maintained in dealing with emotionally demanding calls. **FOODBANK open today.** We are so grateful for the many ways in which our needs are met - as soon as there is a possible shortage of anything, the next donation includes just what we need.

CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS: Fountain Court and French Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Michael Chown, Retired

WEDNESDAY 07 APRIL: Pray for **Phil Adams**, Manager of the Barns Café.

Wednesday 8.00am prayer meeting by Zoom. **South Abingdon FOODBANK** open today from 12.30 - 3pm in the Preston Road Community Centre. **Pray for FRIENDLY CUPPA** continuing by post this month. **Pray for the team led by Penny Smith and Maggie Baker Rawle** at Abingdon Court Care Home. Pray for the residents and staff over the Easter period, that they may feel God's blessing with them and that our recorded Easter service will be meaningful for them. Pray for the team as we continue to video services for residents.

CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS: Friday Am Women's Life Group and Gents Who Lunch. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Ron Clark, Retired

THURSDAY 08 APRIL: Pray for **Emma Buckle, Jo Greenaway, Hannah Kitchener** (Supervisors) and **Jo Walker** (Admin), staff of the Barns Café.

THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP: Pray for all our members, especially those who because of vulnerability or health and mobility issues have spent so much time indoors during these months of lockdown. **CIa Staff** meet at 10am. **Two conferences due this year** (Covid permitting) that are vital for the future of all of life on earth are COP15, on biodiversity, in October in China, and COP26, on climate change, in November in Glasgow. Pray that the years of work at grassroots level by A Rocha (Mission Partner) and other non-governmental organisations will result in good preparation, and a willingness by governments to be bold in their commitments to protect the earth.

CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS: Higher Ground and Hodgson Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Pat Clay, Life Group co-leader

FRIDAY 09 APRIL: Pray for **Chris Ellaby and Jonny Grange**, Worship Pastors.

FOODBANK open today. We would value prayers for those of our team members who are finding life difficult for health or personal reasons. Coming to Foodbank is giving them strength as they have a role to fulfil, and team members are supportive of one another. **John Owen and the Alpha team: HMP Bullingdon-** Pray for prisoners to be vaccinated and for plans to begin for the team to return at some point. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Home

Communions and Jars of Clay Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Debbie Clayden, Communications Officer, BRF

SATURDAY 10 APRIL: Prayer requests from Peter and Jane Dunn - Pray for the development of leaders in Slovenia with a new course starting in April to encourage and equip them. Pray for John Earwicker and the team planning for a Prime-Time event in the summer. Pray for those within Archway and in the wider community who are struggling with the lack of human contact, loneliness and isolation. Sheila Furlong (Mission Partner) is CEO of Archway.

SUNDAY 11 APRIL: CHRIST CHURCH TOGETHER: At 10.30am AAW (Livestream) led by Space – “Doubting Thomas” *John 20:19 to end*. Thank the Lord for our young people, and for Space leading the morning service. At 6.30pm on Zoom “Born into Battle” *Ephesians 6:10-17* with Sarah Fry. Chris Parkman is again leading two services, first at St Hugh’s (Vence) and then Holy Trinity (Nice). Mission of the Month for April: Peter and Jane Dunn of Biglife.

MONDAY 12 APRIL: Pray for the staff team; pray for Nessa Watts, our Curate. ALPHA online starts with “Is there more to life than this?” Please pray for John Owen and his team and guests. Pray for Doorsteps, Viva’s partner network in Oxfordshire (Viva is a Mission Partner). Pray especially for the Youth Worker team continuing to support teenagers’ mental health needs in a shifting landscape, and the recently formed Early Years Network that is equipping 150 organisations to reach out to local parents of young children in their communities. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Jeeva Life Group and Kitchener’s Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Marion Coates, Footprints and LINK

TUESDAY 13 APRIL: Pray for Ros Steel, Associate Pastor. **FOOTPRINTS:** Zoom team meeting today. The group hopes to be able to meet in smaller groups once the regulations are confirmed. **LF COFFEE BREAK:** Pray for those who are anxious about going out and meeting people again after shielding at home. **FOODBANK** open today. Many of our clients are feeling downhearted, and our prayers need to be for them to feel uplifted when they come to visit us. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Midweek Prayer Group and Monday Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Andrew Coleby, Lay Ministry Training

WEDNESDAY 14 APRIL: Pray for Sue Quantick, Older Person’s Ministry Leader. **Wednesday 8.00am prayer meeting** by Zoom. **South Abingdon FOODBANK** open today from 12.30 - 3pm in the Preston Road Community Centre. Pray for Leilani Jeevaratnam, Methlyn Regisford and Sarah Turner as

they continue to take it in turn to provide telephone support to the folk at Fountain Court. Please pray for more meaningful conversations to be had.

ARCHWAY's Covid Group meets today. Pray for wisdom in translating government guidance into practical delivery of services that are safe as well as helpful and meaningful in this time. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** NCR

Pastoral Visiting Networks and NE/ Peachcroft Network. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Elena Collantes, Hospital Consultant

THURSDAY 15 APRIL: Pray for Alex Horlock, John Owen, and Sue Robbins (Prayer Ministry). Please pray for the team, that they may grow in fellowship together and may they feel equipped through the power of the Holy Spirit as they serve others. Pray too for Alex Horlock in her new role as Pastoral Care Team Leader. **THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP:** We give thanks and remember with love and special memories those members of our fellowship who have died through this past year and pray for their families. We rejoice that they are now with the Lord they loved and served. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** NW/

Long Furlong Network and Praydays. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Nicola Cook, Nurse

FRIDAY 16 APRIL: Pray for Gabrielle Dent and Janice Wenninger (Pastoral Visiting). Pray for Christine Bell (Pastoral Prayer Ministry). **FOODBANK** open today. The next stage of easing the lockdown will present us with a challenge as we need to consider how to engage more fully with clients - at present it is hard to have a meaningful conversation. **Please continue to pray about men praying together!** Pray for our planning for future Men@CCA events - and that we will soon be able to meet in person to solidify plans for the rest of this year. **John Owen and the Alpha team: HMP Bullingdon** - Pray for prisoners not to lose hope as they await vaccinations and endure this long-term lockdown. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** PT Network and PT Walks.

CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES: Doreen Cooper, Thursday Fellowship

SATURDAY 17 APRIL: Prayer requests from Peter and Jane Dunn - Pray for online discipleship training starting in London and Bradford in April, that the Lord will equip people and encourage them to put things into practice. Pray too for the online gathering of leaders from across the UK, that a supportive and learning community will emerge.

SUNDAY 18 APRIL: At NCR at 10.30am (Livestream) "God and Disability" *John 5:1-11*. At LF at 10.30am on Zoom, Anne Taylor speaking from *John 21* "Moving On". Pray that we will be a church which really includes all people, and that we learn from one another. At 6.30pm on Zoom "And ... Pray"

Ephesians 6:18-24 with Joanna Savage. Andy and Andrea Warner (Mission Partners, ECM, Spain) write “Please pray for The Bridge today, when we hope to be able to meet (in the conference room of a local hotel) in person for the first time in about 6 months. Pray for our fellowship together and for wisdom to know whether to rent the room on a regular basis.” Mission of the Month for April: Peter and Jane Dunn of Biglife.

MONDAY 19 APRIL: Pray for the staff team. Pray for our cleaning staff, Mark Chapman, Naomi Challis and John Rowe. Pray for our children, young people and all education staff as they return to schools and colleges for the summer term. Let us offer thanks for the way in which prayers have been answered for the provision of larger refurbished premises in the centre of the town for the increasing demand on the services provided for young people at The Abingdon Bridge. The new premises in The Market Place will put the needs of troubled young people at the heart of the community. John Rogers is facilitating a team building training afternoon on Zoom for the Communications and Supporters Team of Wycliffe Bible Translators. ALPHA online with “Who is Jesus?”. Pray that participants will be encouraged to take part in online discussions. Barns Café Directors meet, reviewing and planning the reopening of the cafe. CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS: Revival Missional Community and SIMPLE. CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES: Daniella Cromwell, Ethical retail manager

TUESDAY 20 APRIL: Pray for Andy Dent and Andy Lowe, church wardens. LF COFFEE BREAK: We pray that we will be open to the needs of those around us as well as continuing to encourage one another. **FOODBANK open today.** Pray for the drivers who collect and deliver food for us each week. There are more people needing deliveries and heavy loads can be challenging for some of us. Pray for **GENTS WHO LUNCH** for patience until they can meet again. CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS: Snowball Life Group and Tattersall Life Group. CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES: Jonathan David, Data Analyst

WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL: Pray for Hilary Beale, Philip Bingham and Paul Brombley, deputy wardens and Martin Steel, treasurer. **Wednesday 8.00am prayer meeting** by Zoom. **LINK re-starts** - please pray for wisdom as to how best to support and connect with young families in the coming term. **South Abingdon FOODBANK** open today from 12.30 - 3pm in the Preston Road Community Centre, pray for Ray Ball and his team and guests. **LF Pastoral Team** prayer and supervision meeting at 2pm today. **CHRIST CHURCH**

NETWORKS: The Good Shepherd Life Group and The Rainbow Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Clarisse Delafield, Retired

THURSDAY 22 APRIL: Pray for Roland Knight, Karen Brombley and Val Challis, Safeguarding Officers and trainers. **SINGING CIRCLE:** Singing Circle begins after the Easter Holidays. As it's a group for children, we may be permitted to restart face to face sessions but would value prayer for clarity as to whether we can do so, and wisdom to know whether to continue on Zoom. **Keith at Deanery Standing committee** today. **THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP:** We are grateful that most of our members have now had both doses of the vaccine, but until restrictions are further eased may we continue lovingly to support one another with calls, cards, letters and prayers. **ARCHWAY:** Give thanks for Ordinands Siobhan and Andrew as they come to the end of their placements. May they know God's leading of their lives as they continue to study and prepare for future ministry. **GENESIS Youth** tonight. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Thursday Afternoon Life Group and Thursday Evening Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Howard Delafield, Retired

FRIDAY 23 APRIL: Pray for John Rogers, chair of MSG and Mission Partners Ashleigh Gibb, Tabitha Jorden, Martin Riddall and Chris and Suzy Wilson. **FOODBANK** open today. Fridays are delivery days and contact with clients who we do not meet face to face is not always easy. **John Owen and the Alpha team: HMP Bullingdon** - Pray for prisoners not to lose hope as they await vaccinations and long for visits to resume. **SPACE Youth** tonight **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Thursday Fellowship and Tuesday Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Gabrielle Dent, Paediatric Nurse

SATURDAY 24 APRIL: **The Women's Team** are meeting today to discuss and pray about the event. Pray that we will be open to God's leading and for those who will be speaking on the day. **Pray for our church and community** as we begin to emerge from lockdown, and the help of the Lord as we recover, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus. **Prayer request from Peter and Jane Dunn** (Mission Partners, Biglife, Sheffield) Pray for us as we continue to make disciples in our own community in Sheffield – sharing faith with neighbours and friends and hosting a small group for people seeking faith. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Turner Life Group and Village People.

SUNDAY 25 APRIL: VISION SUNDAY AND APCM