



Christ Church Abingdon

"With Jesus. Like Jesus. For Jesus"

Prayer Diary OCTOBER 2020

'Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? *Matthew 6: 25-27 (NIV)*

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER: This morning, we meet on separate sites. At 10am: Children and Family Video. At NCR: 10.30am Communion livestreamed from church, "Christ Crucified" *1 Corinthians 1:18 – 2:5* with James West (Wycliffe Placement Student) speaking. At LF: Communion service by Zoom. At 6.30pm Zoom service for all. After learning from this evening's 6.30 Zoom service, we intend to plan another service in the coming month. Pray for our children and young people, that they remain engaged with online worship and activities. Mission of the Month for September is an overview of all our Mission Partners.

MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER: Pray for the staff team; pray for Keith Dunnett, our vicar - it's Staff Team Retreat Day (at home!) **Please pray for our link schools:** Dunmore Primary (Head Teacher: Sam Bartholomew) for all staff, pupils, and their families. **MSG Meeting** on Zoom this evening, speaking with Chris and Suzy Wilson. **LF Lifegroup leaders meeting** - give thanks for all those who lead groups and Andrew Turner who supports leaders so well. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** After Eight and Barnabas Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Elena Collantes, Hospital Consultant

TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER: Pray for Heather Hughes, Children's Minister. **FOODBANK open today:** Hilary Beale says "Pat Rowe has been with us as Coordinator for three weeks now and we are so thankful for her joining us.

Already she is familiarising herself with the workings of Foodbank, and we feel sure she will get excellent support from the volunteers as she takes on this new employment.” **FOOTPRINTS:** please pray for guidance for the team, as they want to encourage small groups of 6 to meet informally when possible, if it is safe to do so. **LF COFFEE BREAK:** please pray for all members of this group. **Tuesday Online Alpha** starts this evening; pray for leaders and guests. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Bible Journalling and Bingham Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Nicola Cook, Nurse
WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER: Pray for **Bea Ellaby**, Youth Pastor.

Wednesday 8am prayer meeting by Zoom. **LINK** will be on Zoom some weeks and is hoping to have an on-line social for parents/carers. Please do pray for those with young families who may feel isolated at this time. **LINK toy library**, pray that parents/carers will find this an encouragement and help. **Archway’s COVID group** meets to review the current service and circumstances and discuss how best to support those who are isolated and lonely. **South Abingdon FOODBANK** open today at lunchtime in the Preston Road Community Centre; pray for Ray Ball and his team and all guests. **Wednesday Online Alpha** starts today. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Coffee Break and Coffee Cake and Chat. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Doreen Cooper, Thursday Fellowship

THURSDAY 01 OCTOBER: Pray for **Clint McVea**, Operations Manager. **Please pray for SINGING CIRCLE:** Singing Circle is experimenting with meeting on Zoom once or twice a month, plus meeting up (if allowed) with another family in the weeks in between. Pray for wisdom to know how to contact and include new mums/grandparents/carers and how to get to know them when they do come. **THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP:** Several members were able to attend the “Open Air Service” and some attended the Communion Service in church in early September. Despite the Covid restrictions that were in place, people found it such a joy to be together in person and the group continues to be grateful for the streamed services and recordings. **DESIRE** Steering Group (church leaders and youth workers in Abingdon) meeting to pray and plan. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Didcot Life Group and Dubock Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Daniella Cromwell, Ethical retail manager
FRIDAY 02 OCTOBER: Pray for **Suzie Miles**, Church Administrator and Vicar’s PA. **FOODBANK open today:** We are grateful for the provision of so much storage space in the Corner Suite, as a safe place for the processing of food for an increased number of clients. We give thanks for the generous

donations which continue to come to us from our town where response to requests for particular needs is so immediate. **John Owen and the Alpha team: HMP Bullingdon** - volunteers are still unable to visit the men, please pray for prisoners, staff and volunteers. **PRIME TIME** - short walk leaving Abbey Meadows at 10am. **Pray for all those** who are missing face- to-face human contact and struggling with a long period of shielding due to health vulnerabilities. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Earwicker Life Group and Explorers Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Jonathan David, Data analyst

SATURDAY 03 OCTOBER: Pray for those with caring responsibilities who are likely to have less support and fewer, if any, opportunities for respite. Remember those who are vulnerable because of long-term illness or disability: Joy Batty, Paula Beal, Mike Bowles, Pamela Fitt, Veronica Harden, Ian (Carl Savage's brother), Peter & Eileen Jeffries, Joanna Kilburn, Ellie McRitchie, Alan and Doreen Newton, Tim Pottage, David & Barbara Price, Nicola Price, Debbie Purbrick, Chris Rowe, Brian Stanmore, Nessa Watts, Peggy Woolnough and other church members who are ill, housebound, or recently bereaved.

SUNDAY 04 OCTOBER: At NCR: 9.00am - Communion service in church "Being Thankful" *Luke 17:11-19*; 10.30am Christ Church Together ALL AGE HARVEST Livestream "Being Thankful" *Luke 17:11-19*. Give thanks for James West, on placement from Wycliffe, who finishes his time with us today. Bishop Colin's last day, and online leaving service. Andy and Andrea Warner (Mission Partners, ECM, Spain) write "The Bridge plans to return to the Neighbourhood Association room today to start meeting face-to-face together. We also hope to start an Alpha Course in mid-October. Please pray that these arrangements will be possible and that people will come." October Mission of the Month: Ashleigh Gibb

MONDAY 05 OCTOBER: Pray for Kath and Phil Cooke, Associate Vicars. Staff team meets at 10am. **FOODBANK Steering Group** meeting online at 2pm, give thanks for this team. **Meeting God in the Silence** meets today at 9.30am and 7.30pm in the Barn. **Pastoral Prayer Ministry team** are meeting today. **Standing Committee** meets at 7.30pm. **Pray for our link schools:** Long Furlong Primary (Head Teacher: Carol Dunne) for all staff, pupils, and their

families. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Faith and Cake Life Group and Fitzharrys Network. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Clarisse Delafield, Retired **TUESDAY 06 OCTOBER:** Pray for **Matt Dobie**, our Digital Production Manager. We welcome Matt and his wife Becky to Christ Church and ask for God's blessing upon them. **FOOTPRINTS:** After prayerful consideration and discussion at the last Zoom meeting, the team felt it was not appropriate to restart regular meetings so will continue to keep in touch by phone and monthly newsletter. **LF COFFEE BREAK:** pray for the mutual support of group members. **FOODBANK open today:** We pray that those people planning harvest collections will be able to do so to the benefit of our clients, even with the restrictions we are currently facing. **Tuesday evening Online Alpha** tonight. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Footprints (includes Bible Study group) and Fountain Court. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Howard Delafield, Retired / Carer

WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER: Pray for **Sue Gibbins and Dal Warburton**, our wardens, as they will stand down at the APCM on Sunday. Give thanks for their unstinting efforts, commitment and loyalty. **Wednesday 8am prayer meeting** by Zoom. **LINK:** please pray for those with young families who may feel isolated at this time. **LINK toy library** open today. **South Abingdon FOODBANK** open at lunchtime in the Preston Road Community Centre, pray for Ray Ball and his team and their guests. **Pray for Penny Smith, Leilani Jeevaratnam and their teams**, who minister to residents at Abingdon Court and Fountain Court. Penny Smith says "We prepared a video for the Activities Manager to use with the residents at Abingdon Court in September. Please pray that God will speak to residents through it and for the team as we continue to find ways to offer residents spiritual input. A number of them have really missed our visits." **Clergy from local churches** meet in the Deanery Chapter at 12 noon. **LF Pastoral Care** core team meeting online. **Wednesday Online Alpha** tonight. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** French Life Group and Friday Am Women's Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Gabrielle Dent, Paediatric nurse and Pastoral visiting leader

THURSDAY 08 OCTOBER: Pray for **Hilary Beale, Philip Bingham, Paul Brombley, Chris Hodgson**, deputy wardens and **Tim Shipman** our Treasurer, before the APCM on Sunday. Tim is standing down as treasurer – give thanks for all that he has done for our church community. **Please pray for the online AGM and Autumn meeting** of the Diocesan Mothers' Union from 10.30 am today, chaired by Maureen Weston. Bishop Olivia, the Bishop of Reading, is

speaking on "The Five Marks of Mission". **THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP:** Please pray for all our members, especially those who struggle with health and mobility issues; the housebound; those in Care homes with restricted visiting; those attending hospital for investigations or treatment and those terminally ill. Always remembering the promise that whatever our circumstances "Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

SINGING CIRCLE: Singing Circle is experimenting with meeting on Zoom once or twice a month and meeting up with another family in the weeks in between. **Church in Abingdon** church leaders meet at 10am. **LF Leadership Team meeting** - please pray for wisdom as we seek to nurture the LF congregation and continue to find ways to reach out to local community with God's love and hope. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Gents Who Lunch and Hodgson Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** James Dollar, Engineering manager

FRIDAY 09 OCTOBER: Pray for Phil Adams, Manager of the Barns Café.

FOODBANK open today: we pray for the people who need to come to the foodbank, that they will find their way to us and feel welcomed, supported and encouraged at this exceptionally difficult time in their lives. **John Owen and the Alpha team:** **HMP Bullingdon** – pray for prisoners, staff and volunteers in lockdown. **Andy Jones (Men @ CCA)** says "We have our next Men@CCA event tonight. We have a guest speaker from Christian Vision for Men who is a former British Army major general and will be giving a talk about leadership." **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Home Communion and Jars of Clay Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Ben Drabble, Fundraiser, BMS World Mission

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER: **Ruth Savage writes** "Our Abingdon Local House of Prayer continues mostly by Zoom. It is a format which is very well suited to what we do, and we continue to grow in learning about prayer and releasing blessing for our five people, our area, and our town. The Lord is changing our perspectives and giving us opportunities to build friendship with neighbours and work colleagues and those whom He is simply putting in front of us as we go about our daily business. At present we are also engaged in prayer walking as (socially- distanced) pairs. Please pray we continue to hear and obey what the Lord is saying to us and have the courage to speak about Him to those He is sending us."

Enneagram Sub-type Day led by Liz West and Helen Watts.

SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER: At 10.00am: Children and Families Worship *YouTube*. At 10.30am: NCR Morning Worship *Livestream* "One Foundation" *1 Corinthians 3:5-17*. At 10.30am: LF Morning Worship *Zoom*. At 11:45am Annual Meeting *Zoom*. October Mission of the Month: Ashleigh Gibb

MONDAY 12 OCTOBER: Pray for the staff team; pray for Nessa Watts, our Curate. Pray for our link schools: Rush Common Primary (Head Teacher: Jacquie Stevenson) for all staff, pupils, and their families. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Jeeva Life Group and Kitchener's Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Lydia Drabble, Primary teacher / at home with children

TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER: Pray for Ros Steel, Associate Pastor and Pastoral Coordinator. **FOOTPRINTS:** Footprints team meeting at 10am. **FOODBANK open today**, we seek God's provision of safety during our face to face sessions, particularly as we begin to implement new ways of working as the warm weather ends. We would like to give people a warm welcome, in spirit if not in hospitality. **LF COFFEE BREAK:** pray for the continuing ministry of this group. **The Trustees of The Abingdon Bridge** meet online this evening to discuss increasing the size of the staff team, to respond to the number of young people in need of counselling. Pray for all young people struggling with anxiety and stress and for the staff at TAB who support them. Pray too for the new Chair of TAB, Dr Gill Dean, who takes over from Chris Bryan who has stepped down after 7 years as Chair. **Tuesday Online Alpha** tonight. **Archway's Staff support group** meets this morning - give thanks for the dedication and compassion of the team and pray for those staff members who remain unwell. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Mary & Martha Group and Midweek Prayer Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Andrew Dubock, Communications for Viva

WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER: Pray for Gabrielle Dent and Janice Wenninger (Pastoral Visiting). **Wednesday 8am prayer meeting** by Zoom. **PRIME TIME:** longer walk leaving Sunningwell at 10am. **LINK:** pray for those with young families who may feel isolated at this time. **LINK toy library** - pray that parents/carers will find this an encouragement and help. **South Abingdon FOODBANK** open today at lunchtime in the Preston Road Community Centre, pray for Ray Ball and his team and the guests. **Wednesday Online Alpha** tonight. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Monday Life Group and NCR Pastoral Visiting Networks. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Sally Dubock, Teacher

THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER: Pray for Alex Horlock, John Owen, and Sue Robbins (Prayer Ministry). **SINGING CIRCLE:** pray for the group as plans for Zoom meetings and contact with families continue to develop. **THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP:** Members continue to express how much they are missing our usual meetings but do appreciate the phone calls, the monthly letter and other ways of keeping in touch with one another. We do this through sharing news and concerns, and by turning needs into prayers we continue to love and support one another as a fellowship. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** NE/ Peachcroft Network and NW/ Long Furlong Network. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Jonathan Dunnett, IT support

FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER: Pray for Christine Bell (Pastoral Prayer Ministry). **MWM** remains unable to hold any face to face events, but Zoom is very useful. Today, Rob Buckingham will be giving a webinar on Artificial Intelligence. Please continue to pray for the older men in the church, particularly those dealing with health issues of their own or of their partner. **FOODBANK open today:** where conversations are possible, we pray that people will be enriched with the knowledge that they are cared about, and that they can move forward with some degree of hope in their future. **John Owen and the Alpha team: HMP Bullingdon** - pray for prisoners, staff and volunteers in lockdown. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS;** Praydays and PT Network. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Lynne Dunnett, Water pump technician

SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER Peter and Jane Dunn (Mission Partners, Biglife, UK) write "It has been great to have a couple of weeks away in the Lake District to recharge batteries and rest in the beauty of God's creation. We are now in a season of encouraging those who are on the journey already in applying disciple-making principles in their various settings (20+ locations in the UK, Slovenia and Germany), and launching into new training relationships particularly in the UK. Another prayer request is that we will see people coming to faith in Jesus Christ. From a personal perspective we are meeting weekly with a couple of people from a Hindu background to study the Bible and are praying for the Spirit to reveal the true Jesus to them." **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** PT Walks and Revival Missional Community. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Simon Evans, Teacher

SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER: At 10.00am - Children and Families Worship **YouTube**. At 10.30pm - NCR Morning Worship Livestream "Facing Hardship"

1 Corinthians 4:9-13; 10.30am - LF Morning Worship (to be decided).
October Mission of the Month: Ashleigh Gibb

MONDAY 19 OCTOBER: Pray for the staff team as they continue to lead us through these difficult times. **Café Directors** meet at 7.30pm. **MSG Meeting** on Zoom at 8pm with Viva, including an update from Zambia about the specific Viva project we support there. **Pray for our link schools:** St Nicolas Primary (Head Teacher: Andy Spooner) for all staff, pupils, and their families. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** SIMPLE and Snowball Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Verity Evans, Midwifery

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER: Pray for Emma Buckle, Jo Greenaway, Hannah Kitchener (Supervisors) and Jo Walker (Admin), staff of the Barns Café. **Please pray for the FOOTPRINTS team** - give thanks for the friendships that have grown over the summer months. **LF COFFEE BREAK** – pray for the support of developing friendships. **Sheila Furlong** (Mission Partner, CEO Archway) meets with other charity leaders to discuss common challenges and explore ways of supporting each other. **FOODBANK open today.** We thank God for the continued support of volunteers who cheerfully carry out the varied tasks required of them. We include in this the volunteers who support the Southern branch of the Foodbank and pray particularly for the health of Ray Ball, Pastor of the Vineyard Church who leads the South Abingdon team. **Gents Who Lunch** would have been meeting today; pray for everyone in this group. **Tuesday Online Alpha** tonight. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Tattersall Life Group and The Good Shepherd Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Ray Farmer, Retired, Volunteer at Sobell House

WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER: Pray for our cleaning and security staff, Mark Chapman, Naomi Challis, John Rowe and Jason Kelly. **Wednesday 8am prayer meeting** by Zoom. **LINK:** pray for families and carers of young children. Pray too for the LINK toy library. **South Abingdon FOODBANK** open today at lunchtime in the Preston Road Community Centre, pray for Ray Ball and his team and guests. **FRIENDLY CUPPA by Post** happens once a month. Please pray for those who live alone and who really valued the meeting we were able to have in September. **Wednesday Online Alpha** tonight. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** The Jesus Lifestyle (now named Higher Ground) and The Rainbow Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Andrea Farres, Special school nursing

THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER: Pray for Roland Knight, Karen Brombley and Val Challis, Safeguarding Officers, and trainers. Please pray for SINGING CIRCLE – the team, the families, grandparents and carers. **THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP:** Remember all who are struggling with anxiety or loneliness especially now with shorter days, seasonal weather and current restrictions. May we continue in ways of caring and supporting one another with ongoing fellowship and prayer, knowing the promised presence of Jesus to be with us always. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Thursday Afternoon Life Group and Thursday Evening Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Lucy Ffrench, Criminal lawyer

FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER: Pray for John Rogers, chair of MSG. Pray too for Mission Partners Tabitha Jordan, Martin Riddall and Jason and Sarah Thomas. **FOODBANK open today;** pray for the initiative of the Clothes Bank, led by Sue Porter. **John Owen and the Alpha team: HMP Bullingdon** - pray for the effects of lockdown on the prisoners, staff and volunteers, who long to be allowed back in to visit the men. **CHRIST CHURCH NETWORKS:** Thursday Fellowship and Tuesday Life Group. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Dominic Finch, IT Sales account manager

SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER: A Rocha International's new executive director, Dr Simon Stuart, filling the gap left by the tragic loss of Chris Naylor last year, starts in December. He longs to see Christians at the forefront of the fight to save and recover nature. Pray for him in preparation for his new role. Pray too for Peter Harris in his long journey of recovery. **Sarah Walker and Chris Parkman** are Mission Partners with A Rocha France; Chris is running a bilingual Alpha course in October. **CHURCH NETWORKS:** Turner Life Group and Village People. **CHRIST CHURCH FRONTLINES:** Agnes Foday, Care worker

SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER: At 10.30am NCR: Communion *Livestream* "The Lord's Supper" *1 Corinthians 11:23-34*. At 10:30am LF – to be decided. **October Mission of the Month:** Ashleigh Gibb. Half term begins, pray for all pupils, their families and education staff. Please remember the 8am congregation and older folk generally - please keep praying for our wonderful older friends, thankful for their prayerfulness and wisdom. Pray that we can find ways to share God's love with them, especially those not on the internet.