

Monthly Prayer - April 2020

Why not have your Church Contacts list beside you when you pray and take a few names each day. If you looked at 10 a day it would take just over a month to pray for everyone.

This month's mission partner – Lucy Monk:

Serving through Interserve in South Asia. Pray for:

- Safety and fellowship in her travels, work and witness
- The continuation and fruitfulness of the Birth life-saving skills (BLISS) and women's business empowerment (LaBBS) courses that she supervises
- For political stability and true peace in a troubled land
- For local Christians some of whom have had to leave the country as refugees

This time tomorrow

We want to pray for people in their whole lives and how they share their faith with those they meet. In April we pray for those working outdoors.

Wednesday 1st

On April Fool's Day give thanks for humour and laughter and the ways in which they can uplift our spirits, even when life is troublesome or stressful.

Thursday 2nd

At this time of great pressure on them, pray for our health services, giving thanks for doctors, nurses and therapists and those who work behind the scenes to keep our hospitals running well.

Friday 3rd

Pray for all who are at risk because of the Coronavirus: doctors, nurses, carers, funeral directors and those working at crematoria and cemeteries.

Saturday 4th

Pray for everyone who is isolated from friends and family, and particularly those who are unable to use social media to keep in touch.

Sunday 5th

On Palm Sunday, pray that the whole world will receive Jesus with Hallelujahs.

Monday 6th

In Holy week pray that you will come closer to God as you move through the last week of Jesus' earthly life.

Tuesday 7th

Today is the United Nations World Health Day. Pray for all countries affected by the Coronavirus, asking for wisdom for those governments and scientists working on the best ways to deal with its spread and control.

Wednesday 8th

Give thanks for all those who have volunteered to help, by delivering food and prescriptions, ringing people up, praying.

Thursday 9th Maundy Thursday

Pray that as Jesus' washed the disciples' feet, so may we follow his example of serving others.

Friday 10th Good Friday

Pray for a deeper understanding of Jesus' humanity and suffering as he died on the cross for our sake.

Saturday 11th

Easter Eve is a Time of Waiting. As we wait to see what will happen with the coronavirus pandemic, pray for patience and for tolerance.

Sunday 12th Easter Sunday

Rejoice today, the Lord is risen. Whatever problems we may be facing we have the promise of eternal life with Him.

Monday 13th

Pray for the dying and the bereaved, asking that they will know God's peace.

Tuesday 14th

Pray for our city, for the mayor, councillors, and other people of influence that we may indeed be a city of Hope.

Wednesday 15th

Pray for children who are being home schooled. Pray that they will be enthusiastic about learning and will have fun. Pray that family members will not get distressed by too much contact in confined spaces.

Thursday 16th

Pray for Jema and the staff team for all they are doing to support us. Pray that they will keep free of illness and stress and will feel close to God.

Friday 17th

Pray for the ASMA churches, their incumbents, clergy, wardens and volunteers that they will find the resources they need to do what they need to do.

Saturday 18th

Pray for the media, that they will report with honesty and fairness.

Sunday 19th

Ask God to help you to keep a sabbath day.

Monday 20th

Pray for all those individuals, families and organisations who are in financial difficulties because of the coronavirus. Pray too, for the people administering grants and loans from government.

Tuesday 21st

Today is the Queen's birthday, pray for her, giving thanks for her faithfulness to her people and to God. Pray for the health of the Royal family.

Wednesday 22nd

On Earth day pray for wisdom in how we care for God's world. Help us to reflect on what we could do to preserve His creation.

Thursday 23rd

On World Book day give thanks for books that are filling more of the time for many people during self-isolation.

Friday 24th

This should have been take your son or daughter to work day. Pray for growing understanding between parents and children; for good communication and love in relationships.

Saturday 25th

On the day when the church remembers St Mark, give thanks for the Bible and pray for a deeper understanding of God's word.

Sunday 26th

Pray for shops that remain open to keep us fed, giving thanks for home deliveries to those in need.

Monday 27th

Give thanks for some of the basic things in life that you take for granted – clean water, a roof, a comfortable bed, enough to eat and remember those who do not have these advantages.

Tuesday 28th

Pray for friends and family who are under stress for whatever reason, asking that they will seek God's guidance and find peace and forgiveness.

Wednesday 29th

Pray for those who suffer from chronic conditions that cause pain and disability and for all who work with them to improve their quality of life.

Thursday 30th

Pray for the St Mary's family that everyone will act wisely and with compassion.

Looking ahead

Let us look forward to a time when we can worship together at St Mary's but meanwhile take advantage of the website

www.stmarysb.org.uk and emails and social media.