

St Catherine's Church,
Littleton



Mission Prayer Diary
March - April 2024

Welcome

We hope that this prayer diary may help you in focussing your prayers in support of the mission interests of St Catherine's Church family.

The gospels make it clear that Jesus wants all people everywhere to experience the love of God. Jesus desires us to have life, and life to the full (John 10:10). This includes every aspect of our being: spiritual, emotional, mental and physical. But in this broken world, not everyone is able to live life to the full. Poverty, conflict, the climate crisis and the pandemic have robbed people of hope, health and opportunities. And so, let us pray for people who are struggling, that they may indeed have life in abundance.

'And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night?'

Luke 18: 7

Please join with us and share in bringing the concerns of our world before God, whose love and compassion know no limits.

3 – 9 March

Focus on: **MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship), with Ben and Esther, Barny and Reuben Brown, in Arnhem Land, Northern Australia**

- Pray for Ben and Esther's ministry at MAF, the Women's Shelter, church and the community they live in. They say, "We want the love of Christ to transform people's lives."
- Pray for Barney who has just started school, that he may make good friends and really enjoy learning lots of new things. Pray for health and fitness for Esther during her pregnancy, with the baby expected in July.
- Please pray for licenced aircraft maintenance engineers who are always in high demand and short supply. The lack of engineers is often a limiting factor for MAF's programmes.

10 - 16 March

Focus on: **Open Doors**

- **Libya** – Libya remains deeply unstable, increasing the danger for God's people. Pray that stability and order will come to Libya so that God's people can follow him without fear.
- **Sudan** – Christians in Sudan are especially vulnerable during times of conflict. Ask God to restore peace to Sudan.
- **Iran** – Praise God that the church in Iran is growing! Ask God to continue to pour out His Spirit on Iranian believers, and pray that new believers will find fellowship.

17 - 23 March

Focus on: **Chris and Kesia Pain (OMF Japan), Caleb, Jonathan, Carys and Megumi**

- Give thanks for the Church football sessions which ran in December and January, offering opportunities to share faith whilst enjoying social time together. Pray for the school friends invited by Carys.
- Chris' aunt, in the UK, is nearing the end of her life. Chris will need time to return to UK for the funeral, and help sort her affairs. Pray that colleagues will be supportive and cover the time he will be away so that all runs smoothly.
- Pray for Japan, for fruit from the gospel seeds sown over generations, that many people may come to faith and be baptised.

24 – 30 March

Focus on: **Tearfund**

- A few weeks ago, Myanmar's junta announced mandatory military service for up to two years. Pray for the safety and protection of all the local churches, partners and people Tearfund serves. Ask for peace and unity over Myanmar
- Pray for each one of the 3.5 billion people around the world who do not have access to a safe, clean toilet. Pray for governments to hear the voices of advocates (like Tearfund) and to take action to ensure that communities have good sanitation provision.
- Years of conflict in Yemen have resulted in a traumatised nation. Pray for the support groups that one of Tearfund's partners runs, equipping communities with strategies for conflict resolution and dealing with trauma.

31 March – 6 April

Focus on: **The work of CMS in Northern Argentina, Bishop Crisanto Rojas, CMS partner**

- Pray for indigenous Bishop Crisanto Rojas, working in Northern Argentina supporting pastors, teaching and presiding over meetings. This involves extensive travel so pray for safety and stamina.
- Bishop Crisanto asks for prayer for the young people in his communities: "They face many challenges and there are a lot of drugs. We pray that leaders and pastors may have ideas on how to reach children and young people and for God to touch their lives."
- Praise God for training last year for 180 leaders of the indigenous church in northern Argentina. Pray for these leaders in their churches, and for those who train.

7 – 13 April

Focus on: **Father Winston Williams, Guyana**

- Pray for Winston's ministry, which covers a wide area around Bartica, for health and stamina, and safety in travel as he is ageing and nears retirement.
- Guyana is currently facing various threats, with Venezuela and Suriname disputing borders and claiming large oil-rich lands. Pray for peaceful resolution of disputes and hope to come to Guyana.

14 – 20 April

Focus on: **Karis Kids (Kampala)**

- Pray for our link church, St Paul's, in Okuvu, one of the slum areas of Kampala, and for the nine families currently supported by the Downs Benefice, that they will be able, with Karis' support, to lift themselves out of poverty.
- Pray for the Summer Camp due to take place this year in August and in the early stages of planning. Pray that God will draw together the team he wants to lead the camp, and for good communication between the Ugandan and UK members of the team.
- Pray for the health of the Karis Family Link Ministries (KFLM) team in Kampala and the Karis Kids team in UK.

21 – 27 April

Focus on: **The Brickworks**

- Give thanks for the many projects completed last year including provision of 100 school desks to church primary schools in Yei, as well as funding a latrine and repairing a bore hole.
- A successful cataract clinic was held in Yei in spring 2023. Pray for a similar clinic planned for this year, restoring sight to over a hundred people.
- Pray for plans, in an early stage at the moment, for a visit by John and Poppy Spens to Yei in September, to offer training at the Martha Clinic and support to the Bishop Allison Theological College.

28 April – 4 May

Focus on: **Winchester Organisations**

- **Street and School Pastors** – Uphold the new ministry to Winchester schools: King's, Stanmore and Olivers Battery, connecting with the youngsters in our city.
- **Trinity Winchester** – Pray that many will sign up for the annual 'Big Sleep Out', a major fundraising event for Trinity in May, and for smooth planning.
- **Winchester Beacon** – pray for the new CEO Mark Wakeling as he leads the team of staff ensuring an ongoing service for those in need and facing the challenges of homelessness.

Contacts:

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The Brickworks	Carol Ward
Guyana	Christine Disher
CMS	Alan Disher
Basics Bank	Carol Ward
Trinity Winchester	Alan Disher
City Chaplaincy	Carol Ward
Winchester Beacon	Carol Ward
Chris and Kesia Pain (OMF Japan)	Carol Ward
Karis Kids	Carol Coleman

**“Lord, help us to do whatever
You ask of us.”**