

The Benefice of
St Mary the Less, Chilbolton
St Mary's Crawley
St Catherine's Littleton
St Stephen's Sparsholt
St Peter and Holy Cross, Wherwell

PRAYER LIST

September 2020

*Prayer is like opening a door and slipping into
the presence of God.*

There in the stillness to listen to His voice

Perhaps to petition – or only to listen

It matters not;

Just to be there, in His presence, is prayer.

O Christ for whom we search,
our help when help has failed:
give us courage to expose our need,
and ask to be made whole
in your healing love;
That being touched by you,
we may be raised to new life,
in the power of your holy name. Amen.

This leaflet is used for prayers in the church room at Littleton on Tuesdays at 4.15 pm each week, to which all are welcome, and can be used for your private prayers.

We hold before God all those for whom prayer has been requested.

To comply with recent legislative changes to the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), individual names are not printed, but we believe that God knows who these dear people are, and His Holy Spirit will intercede on our behalf.

We also pray for anyone else on our hearts at this time and all those with temporary or long term health problems and for the families and carers who support them.

We pray for those in residential care.

We give thanks for those who are recovering from illness.

We remember with compassion friends and relatives of the recently departed:

Jackie Compton

Ray Blazdell

Colin Dangerfield

Fiona Green

Mark Watson

Philip Meitner

Peter Wheble

We pray for all our ministry team and the work of all five churches in our Benefice.

For our Incumbent: Jax Machin

For the Ministry Team: Bruce Kington, Alan Disher, Charlotte Nash, Andrew Kent, Sally Wesley, Alastair Barron and Carol Coleman.

The team at Winchester City Chaplaincy, for the new Lead Chaplain, Rev Nick Fennemore; Margaret Heaps, Volunteer Chaplain at the Law Courts.

Our Benefice administrator: Caroline.

All Parish Visitors and the support and time they give in the Benefice.

We give thanks for our Benefice and pray for a spirit of unity in the ministry we all share.

We pray for those planning our collective worship over the next few months, and for patience and understanding in the current circumstances.

We pray for those who are isolated in their homes and anxious about resuming any social contact.

We pray for the young in our area.

For local nurseries and schools to be safe places where young lives may flourish.

For schools, colleges and universities returning this month; for safety from coronavirus for students and teachers, and for the opportunities offered to learn, and socialise with fellow classmates once more.

We pray for our local community

For establishments with a caring outreach, their users and residents, their families, staff, pastors and administrators; for groups which give aid and support to the community. At this time when society continues to be challenged over how to respond to the coronavirus pandemic and maintain support and outreach services, we pray for

- All Nursing and Care Homes in the area; The Lookout, Naomi House and Jacksplace; Andover, Basingstoke and Winchester Hospitals and GP practices; The Boaz Project; The Prison and the Footprints charity, the Park Club, Street Reach; The Emergency Services: Fire, Police and Ambulance; First Responders, Community Care Groups, Street Pastors; Friends of the Family, Home Start, the Live at Home Scheme.

We pray for the poor, homeless and hungry, and the on-going support given through the Trinity Centre, the Keystone project, the Night Shelter, the Basics Bank, Andover Food Bank and the Emmaus centre. We pray that donations of food and money will continue, to enable this vital support to be extended during this difficult time of extra need.

We pray for the Church of England and the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby. Within our diocese of Winchester we pray for Bishop Tim, for David, Suffragan Bishop of Basingstoke and Debbie, Suffragan Bishop of Southampton.

This month in our Benefice we pray for the Parish of Chilbolton.

We pray for the people of Lebanon following the devastating explosion in Beirut. We pray for those who've lost loved ones, homes and businesses. We pray for calm amidst understandable civil unrest, and the provision of a government which can lead with integrity and competence.

We pray for the people of Bolivia in the midst of a political crisis, with shortages of food, fuel and even oxygen for hospitals, in addition to the problems faced by the covid pandemic, but give thanks for some easing of the situation.

We pray for refugees and asylum seekers, especially those trying to reach our shores by crossing the English Channel. We pray for compassion and for their needs for food, shelter, clothing and love to be met. May their wounds – emotional and physical be healed. We pray that the world will take action on behalf of refugees everywhere who have been forced from their homes by conflict, persecution and extreme poverty leaving them so traumatised that they have sought safety and a better life elsewhere.

We pray for missionaries: Chris and Kesia and family in Japan with OMF, Nick and Catherine serving with CMS in Argentina but currently stranded in UK, Greg and Jill working for MAF in Uganda, for Winston Williams in Guyana and The Brickworks supporting projects in South Sudan and the refugee camps in Uganda; for others known to, and supported by, individuals in our parishes. We pray for the ongoing work of Karis Kids in Kampala and uphold the families supported by the Downs Benefice. We give thanks for the work of Tearfund, and organisations supporting the persecuted Church, including Open Doors and Barnabas Fund.

Requests for Prayers may be made through the Benefice Office or direct to Revd Jax Machin. (office@downsbenefice.org.uk; 01962 880845)