

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

July 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:

Brian Cox	Jean Payne	Brenda Parker
David Astley	Evelyn Critchell	Lesley Boothby
Dudley Taylor	Sonya Garfield	Neville Semple
Pat Chapman	Hilda Van de Lagemaat	Evan Jones
Jackie Compton	Ray Blazdell	Colin Dangerfield

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 give thanks for the opening of our churches for private prayer, and look forward to the time when we can meet together for corporate worship.

We pray for members of our church family who feel isolated, lonely or anxious about the future.

We pray for the young in our area.

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

For teachers at our local schools, coping with the challenges of providing an education in the coronavirus era.

For young people deciding on further and higher education options for September.

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 is challenged over how to respond to the current 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 Sparsholt.

We pray for our leaders in government, for wise decision making about how best to protect jobs and stimulate the economy whilst tackling the ongoing challenges of the coronavirus pandemic on health services, social and business interactions, amidst uncertainty about local outbreaks and further waves of infection.

We pray for those facing hunger, thirst and disease in areas such as Yemen, where civil war continues to ravage the nation, and pray that humanitarian access to the worst affected areas will remain open despite ongoing conflict and the restrictions imposed by coronavirus.

We pray for all people, of every ethnicity, rejoicing in our diversity but recognising the inequalities which exist and which have been highlighted by the current 'Black Lives Matter' campaign. We pray that our churches and communities will be places of reconciliation, where all will feel valued and equal before God and in society.

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 due to the coronavirus pandemic, 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, as well as others suffering from the effects lockdown in the slums and so desperately short of food. 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)