

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

June 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:

Norris Fuller

John St Leger

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

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, Carol Coleman and Di Payne.

The team at Winchester City Chaplaincy, giving thanks for the recent appointment of a 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.

At this time of continuing uncertainty and inability to meet together for worship and fellowship we pray for each other, especially those self-isolating alone. We give thanks that we have a God who is unchanging and omnipotent and who provides a safe refuge.

We pray for the young in our area.

For all children and students coping with uncertainties in their ongoing education because of coronavirus.

For teachers at our local schools, especially Sparsholt CofE and Wherwell Primaries, with the return of certain year groups this month and ongoing on-line support for others.

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 increase, to enable this vital support to continue 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 Littleton.

We pray for our leaders in government, for wise decision making about how best to halt further spread of coronavirus in the UK and protect the population as we begin to raise restrictions, while also protecting jobs. We pray for all those who mourn loss of loved ones, for those currently unwell in hospitals, care homes and at home and for all who are lonely and anxious about the future. We pray for NHS and other key workers to be kept well and for adequate provision of personal protective equipment. We pray for courage to replace fear as they care for infected people.

We pray for wisdom and support for governments of developing nations who are not able to provide safety nets to their people because of lack of resources and fragile infrastructures. We ask God to protect people living in refugee camps from coronavirus, such as the half a million Rohingya people in the world's biggest refugee camp in Bangladesh.

We pray for missionaries: Chris and Kesia and family in Japan with OMF, Nick and Catherine serving with CMS in Argentina but currently stuck 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)