



St. Mary's
Warwick's Church of Treasures

July 2018

Prayer Diary

*Thank you for supporting the people of St Mary's, its parish and the wider community through prayer. Do use these prayers as you wish. There are extra copies, and large-print versions, at the back of church, and on the newsletters area of St Mary's Church website. **Links** in the online edition provide further material that may be of use or interest. If you can't access the internet and would like particular information, contact Kirsteen Robson. Please share suggestions for prayer with Kirsteen (kirsteenr@gmail.com or 07799 682872).*

Sun 1

**Fifth Sunday
after Trinity**

We pray for our Curate Alycia as she is ordained Priest at Coventry Cathedral. Fill her with your Holy Spirit, that each day she will trust you to equip her to fulfil her vocation and minister to your people as an instrument of your peace and love. We also pray for Oliver on his baptism day, that he will grow up to know you as his friend, his saviour and his Lord.

Mon 2

Please bless **Transforming Communities Together Warwick's** efforts to raise £100K for a Youth Bus Project, which will enable a team of detached youth workers to go into areas with little or no youth provision with a bus specially designed to engage hard to reach young people. We place into your hands the funding application currently under consideration.

Tue 3

**St Thomas
the Apostle**

We thank you that **Thomas** was brave enough to express his doubts fully and that Jesus answered them completely. We pray for all whose journey is suspended by doubt. Please enable them to bring their uncertainties out of the silence, and allow Jesus to bring them to belief that they may continue in the way.

Wed 4

At a time when political and economical independence is at the forefront of the minds of many, we ask you to guide us as we prayerfully consider where our own dependence lies.

Thu 5

On the eve of the C of E's **General Synod**, grant members wisdom, patience, and minds that are open to each other's views and to your truth. Guide their discussions on nuclear weapons, climate change and fossil-fuel investment, the C of E's carbon footprint, the NHS, safeguarding and ecumenical relations.

Fri 6

On the **70th birthday of the National Health Service**, we give thanks for its incredible achievements and the dedication of its extraordinary staff. We rejoice in its successes, and mourn its failures. May the celebrations successfully highlight ways for people to support this vital service and help safeguard its future.

Sat 7

We pray for Cherry and Adrian, Chloe and Luke on the day of their weddings. Bless their marriages, that rooted in you and supported by friends their love may be life-affirming and lifelong.

Sun 8

**Sixth Sunday
after Trinity**

On **Sea Sunday**, we thank you for seafarers, past and present. Protect those who daily face danger to keep the global economy afloat. Bless the work of the **Sailors' Society** and the **Mission to Seafarers**, supporting seafarers of all nationalities, beliefs and ranks. We also pray for Alycia as she presides over her first Eucharist. Bless the whole St Mary's family as we share this spiritual food and the bring-and-share lunch afterwards.

Mon 9

We pray for local 6-year-old **Charlie**, embarking on a charity bike ride from Warwick Castle today. Give him the mental and physical stamina to reach Windsor Castle by Sunday, and may his story inspire others to take action for a good cause. Bless the work of the **Warwickshire Young Carers' Project** and **Pans Pandas UK** that Charlie's challenge is supporting.

Tue 10

Healing Lord, in a quiet moment today we lift up to you all who are receiving treatment for cancer, naming any we know personally. Give them and their loved ones strength, comfort and encouragement to prepare them in body, mind and spirit for each day as it comes. Direct the minds of those who plan their treatment, and the hands of those who deliver it.

Wed 11

On **World Population Day** we pause to picture a ten-digit number on the **population clock**: 7,63..... and rising rapidly. Remind us that where we see numbers, you see your own children. Help us to pray for them as our brothers and sisters, and act accordingly. We pray too for tonight's PCC meeting. Grant wisdom in their discussions and courage in their decisions.

Thu 12

We pray for all those adjusting to the world after time in prison. Support them as they find their feet, guide them as they put past mistakes behind them, and smooth their path as they are reunited with family, friends and the community.

Fri 13

As we continue to consider the **ACTS of prayer**, help us take time throughout the day to think of what we have to be grateful for and to thank you. Nurture an attitude of gratitude, that, constantly encouraged by an awareness of your blessings, we may entrust every aspect of our lives to you with faith.

Sat 14

Lord, we thank you for the 18 children who came with their parents and carers to May's launch of **Messy Church Woodloes** and pray it will become a regular and rewarding part of their lives. Bless this church and the volunteers who run it, that they will help people encounter Christ as Lord and Saviour.

Sun 15

**Seventh Sunday
after Trinity**

As St Mary's **robed choirs** break for the summer, we thank you for the commitment and generosity with which they've rehearsed and shared their musical gifts, and pray for them as they rest. Bless those whose time of service here has ended. May they go forth with a special place in their hearts for each other, for the harmony of Voice and Verse, and underpinning it all, for you.

Mon 16

We pray for the Girls and Men's visit to St George's, Windsor today, giving thanks for this opportunity to sing your praises in another place of prayer and worship steeped in history. May it be a satisfying experience, musically, spiritually and socially.

Tue 17

We pray for the **Pathway Mentoring Programme Warwick**, in partnership with **St Mary's Church, Leamington**. Bless mentors and mentees as they explore ways to break addictions and other negative behaviour patterns. Lead to Pathway those needing help, and nudge new potential mentors forward.

Wed 18

Today we give thanks for the work of the **CMM Sisters** in Tanzania, and all they do in your name to support girls' education. We pray for the girls who are leaving the hostel in Masasi, having finished at secondary school: may they find your way for them in the outside world. We pray that some will achieve the exam results needed for college, to train as nurses and teachers, which are so desperately needed in Tanzania.

Thu 19

Lord, thank you for inspiring idea after idea to develop The Gateway Café on Smith Street, to help Helping Hands give people a hand up, out of homelessness. May members of local churches accept the invitation to meet and mingle there at Tea & Cake mornings on the 1st and 3rd Fridays each month.

Fri 20

As many schools break up for the summer, we give thanks for the academic year that is ending, for all the experiences and learning shared. Bless teachers and students in their rest, that they may return in the autumn ready to re-engage with energy and enthusiasm. Protect the families for whom the holidays bring additional pressure on relationships, time or finances.

Sat 21

We commit into your safekeeping the physical and spiritual journeys of all who are travelling this summer: May the road rise up to meet them... May the wind be always at their back... May the sun shine warm upon their face... The rains fall soft upon their fields... Hold them safe in the palm of your hand...

Sun 22

**Eighth Sunday
after Trinity**

Lord, we ask for your blessing on all attending the service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance at the Cemetery, led by **Churches Together in Warwick**. Meet them wherever they are on their journey of grief, that they may know your love, hope and comfort as you walk on beside them. And we pray for James and his family as he is baptised today. May his life be built on a firm foundation, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone.

Mon 23

In **National Parks Week**, we thank you for these areas of natural beauty and pray for their preservation. We pray for those whose hearts are stirred by the beauty, freedom and peace of these places, that you will draw them to seek you, the eternal source of the same. And we lift up to you all whose circumstances prevent them coming close to you in creation.

Tue 24

With the congregation of **Myton Church** we ask you to bless the preparations being made for the Myton Church Holiday Club (commencing on 30th July). May the children who come hear and understand the good news about Jesus. We give thanks that a number of parents and carers have already expressed an interest in attending the 'Christianity Explored' course that will be running while the Club is taking place and we pray that you will draw them into a deeper relationship with you.

Wed 25

We hold in our prayers today the trustees of the **St Mary's Hall Trust** as they consider who will chair it from November. Help them balance generosity and prudence in fund allocation, as they strive best to further the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England and promote general charitable purposes for the benefit of the people of Warwick.

Thu 26

We pray for the town, the church and its visitors during the **Warwick Folk Festival**. As musicians and dancers weave this year's new threads into the tapestry of tradition, inspire our appreciation of the complex web of humanity which you love so much, bought so dearly, and in which we all have a place.

Fri 27

Amid our activity today, help us notice benches, trees and other items for public use or enjoyment that are dedicated to the memory of loved ones. We give thanks for the lives lived, the loves lost, the memories cherished and those who still mourn.

Sat 28

As we pray for the parish, guide our prayers for people and situations we may not know personally. We lift up today all who live and work in Lyttelton Road, Peel Road, Millers Road, Oken Road, Ladbroke Park, Lock Lane and St Mary's Close.

Sun 29

**Ninth Sunday
after Trinity**

We ask you to bless all attending **The Gathering** at New Life Church on the last Sunday of each month. Strengthen them as they struggle with life-controlling issues, and support their families and loved ones. Inspire them through the testimonies from those whose lives of addiction have been transformed by encounter with Jesus, and so bring them hope and healing.

Mon 30

On **World Friendship Day** we thank you for the precious gift of friendship and for our own friends, who encourage us yet will tell us truths we need to hear. Comfort all who feel isolated, and reassure those who struggle to trust themselves or others and allow new friendships to form. Teach us to love as you love, that new friendships may be developed, current ones nurtured, lapsed ones renewed and, where possible, broken ones restored.

Tue 31

St Ignatius Loyola

Teach us, good Lord, to serve thee as thou deservest; to give, and not to count the cost, to fight, and not to heed the wounds, to toil, and not to seek for rest, to labour, and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do thy will. (*Ignatius*)