



**St. Mary's**  
Warwick's Church of Treasures

# August 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](mailto:kirsteenr@gmail.com) or 07799 682872).*

**Wed 1**

As the summer holidays increase the stream of visitors to Warwick, we give thanks for our receptionists and all who work in the Gift Shop, enabling St Mary's to be open daily to all who come and welcoming them on the church's behalf. We pray for the reorganisation of the shop and reception area. May it run smoothly and help us better serve our visitors, and through serving others may we be serving and glorifying you.

**Thu 2**

We pray for all attending the St Mary's v St Nicholas Croquet Evening and thank you for the generosity and work of those hosting and organising the event. Bless this time of fellowship, that new friendships may form and existing ones may flourish.

**Fri 3**

We pray for those organising and all attending the **Churches Together in Warwick** prayer breakfast at St Mary's tomorrow. Bless them as they pray together, share food in your name and celebrate being part of the body of Christ that crosses barriers of denomination, worship style and theological nuance.

**Sat 4**

O God of Creation, we pray for all who work the land to provide food and materials for our use. After the hot, dry July we remember especially those who are anxious about the cost and practicalities of irrigating their crops and are worried about their yields and income. We pray too that the welfare of animals may remain a top priority, especially in hot weather.

**Sun 5**

**Tenth Sunday  
after Trinity**

Today we bring before you our summer congregations, their resident and visiting members, ministers and musicians. May the dynamic of these holiday services offer fresh perspectives. 'May the grace of Christ our Saviour and the Father's boundless love, with the Holy Spirit's favour, rest upon us from above. Thus may we abide in union with each other and the Lord, and possess in sweet communion, joys which earth cannot afford.'

**Mon 6**

In **National Road Victim Month** we pray for those injured and for the families and friends of those who have been killed on the roads this year. Protect all who drive, keeping their wits sharp, their decisions wise and them and their passengers safe.

**Tue 7**

We thank you for all who deliver adult social care and pray that love, respect and compassion may remain at the heart of all they do. Guide and support those who are under pressure to meet measurable targets, that they may never lose sight of the individual precious people the numbers represent.

**Wed 8**

Today we give thanks for the **National Trust** and all it does to preserve our country's landscape, wildlife and heritage 'for ever, for everyone'. Grant joy to its staff and volunteers, wisdom and integrity to those who raise and administer funds or direct programmes of work, and refreshment to its visitors.

**Thu 9**

**Mary Sumner**

Thank you for the work of the **Mothers' Union** worldwide. Guide its members as they respond to 2018's MU theme 'In Mary Sumner's footsteps', seeking new ways to reach out to the needs in their communities. We pray for members of **MU Warwick Together** attending today's open day at HQ. May the experience inspire them, that they in turn may inspire others.

**Fri 10**

We pray for all whose character or circumstances make them specially vulnerable to those who would take financial advantage, and ask you to help and guide all who try to protect and support them. Keep us vigilant, that we may be sensitive to what needs to be seen and ready to ask questions that need answers.

**Sat 11**

Today we pray for Fabian and Natasha as they step out from this holy place as husband and wife. We thank you for the gift of love, which always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. May it be their compass and their shield.

**Sun 12**

**Eleventh Sunday  
after Trinity**

Lord, help me choose my words wisely today. Help me speak life into those around me, to encourage not dishearten, to foster hope not doubt, administer healing not hurt, and share truth not distortion, that your love may be known. And if I can say nothing that does any of these, help me say just that!

**Mon 13**

Our Father in heaven, thank you that you are closer to us than our own breath, knowing our inmost desires that we dare not even acknowledge. As we continue considering the **ACTS of prayer**, free us to bring our requests for ourselves and others to you with confidence, humility and commitment, that we may be thus prepared to receive all you would give us.

**Tue 14**

As leaders plan an exciting programme for next term's **Messy Church Woodloes** we pray that volunteers to set up, clear up, and lead craft activities will come forward to join the team.

**Wed 15**

**Blessed Virgin Mary**

Today we give thanks for the members and ministry of **St Mary Immaculate Church**. With them we join in prayer for **St Mary Immaculate Primary School**, asking especially for your blessing on their two new teachers, that they may settle well into the team and contribute to the continued success of the school.

**Thu 16**

As we pray our way around the St Mary's parish, help us see ways to share your love in this community for which we have particular responsibility. We pray especially today for homes and businesses in Saltisford, St Christopher's Close, Upper Cape, Lower Cape, Sir Thomas White Close and Cape Court.

**Fri 17**

Today we remember the **CMM Sisters** in Tanzania, and give thanks for the example they set of living for you through serving others, and trusting you to provide for them through their work on the land and with animals. Sustain their hopes and their harvests as they endure environmental challenges such as irregular rains and disease. Empower them, and all, who face problems with human causes, such as the plague of discarded plastic bags, which cows eat and as a result die.

**Sat 18**

Bless Charlotte and Timor as they make their marriage vows today. May their joy as they are united before you nourish them in the years ahead, that they may continue to grow together, and that their love may blossom and bear fruit.

**Sun 19**

**Twelfth Sunday  
after Trinity**

On **World Humanitarian Day** we pray for the millions of civilians affected by armed conflict every day, those struggling to find food, water, and safe shelter, those driven from their homes by fighting, children used to fight, women abused and humiliated, humanitarian workers used as targets or threats as they deliver aid. May world leaders respond to the #NotATarget movement, and do all they can to protect civilians in conflict.

**Mon 20**

**William and  
Catherine Booth**

Today we give thanks for the work of William and Catherine Booth and the **Salvation Army**. We pray for the **Leamington branch**, and its ministry to homeless and vulnerable people through the Way Ahead Project and its Lifehouse hostel, Eden Villa. Bless Lieutenants Kelsey and Jessica Pearce as they take charge, that under their leadership the church and its activities may go from strength to strength, bringing your love to many.

**Tue 21**

We remember our Choir of Boys and Men as their residency week at **Lincoln Cathedral** continues. Thank you for the dedication and hard work of those whose planning, fundraising and organising has made the visit possible – may the resulting work, rest and play be rewarding for all.

**Wed 22**

We pray for the success of 'Be Water Aware' and other water safety campaigns. Protect all who work for the **RNLI**, the Fire and Rescue Services and other coastal safety organisations.

**Thu 23**

We pray for people working community sentences, that this may be for them a time for reflection, restoration and healing. Bless all who work in the Probation Service and community rehabilitation companies. Protect them physically and mentally as they do what they can to help people turn their lives around.

**Fri 24**

We hold in our hearts today those whose relationship with alcohol controls and distorts their lives. Please bring them to a place where they can take the first steps to recovery. Bless the efforts of Warwickshire Pathways to reach and encourage more people into treatment. We pray too for the work of **Alcoholics Anonymous**, and for **Al-Anon** and **Nacoa** (The National Association of Children of Alcoholics) who support families who live with people who are dependent on alcohol.

**Sat 25**

We pray for Melissa and Ashley on their wedding day, asking you to bless their marriage. May they live in love and faithfulness with each other and with you, that you will indeed give them what is good, and their union will yield its rich harvest.

**Sun 26**

**Thirteenth  
Sunday after  
Trinity**

We remember the members of our church family who can no longer get to church for worship and meeting together. Please help us support them in discovering new ways they can meet with Christians. We pray for our pastoral and befrienders team and all who visit people at home, arrange lifts, and help to address their spiritual and practical needs.

**Mon 27**

We lift to you all the people who have left prayer requests in church this summer: those who've written with hope in their hearts, and those overcome by despair. Lord, hear their prayers.

**Tue 28**

**Augustine  
of Hippo**

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ, rest your weary ones, bless your dying ones, soothe your suffering ones, pity your afflicted ones, shield your joyous ones. And all for your love's sake. Amen. *A of H*

**Wed 29**

We bring before you today all those who do not yet believe, naming those you have particularly placed on our hearts. May the light of the gospel shine into their lives, dispelling all doubt and shadow. We pray too that you will send your Holy Spirit to reignite the flame of faith of those whose love for you has grown cold, that they may know the fullness of life in you.

**Thu 30**

Lord who sees and knows all, we pray that this **International Day of the Disappeared** will raise awareness of the hundreds of thousands of people who are missing, especially as a result of armed conflict, violence, natural disasters or migration, and the plight of those who grieve for them. Replace their desolation, helplessness and uncertainty with your comfort, strength and hope, and empower governments and others to step up their response to this complex and challenging problem.

**Fri 31**

As the summer holidays draw to a close, we pray for children and young people who are preparing to return to school. Fill them with your peace and courage as they move into new school years, and with energy and enthusiasm to embrace the opportunities and meet the challenges this new term will bring.