

*Thank you for supporting the people of this church, parish and wider community through prayer. Feel free to use these prayers as you wish, such as using the themes as starting points for prayers in your own words. There are extra copies for sharing at the back of church, and on St Mary's Church website. The online edition has **links** leading to further material that may be of interest. Thank you to those who have contributed ideas and prayers this month. Everyone is invited to share suggestions for November's diary (by 15<sup>th</sup> October if possible) with Kirsteen Robson ([kirsteenr@gmail.com](mailto:kirsteenr@gmail.com) or 07799 682872).*

### **Tue 1**

God of refuge, we pray for people experiencing domestic abuse, especially those who feel trapped, with no one to turn to. Hear their prayers, give them hope and bring each the support they need. Bless tonight's performance of *Rock and A Hard Place* at Warwick Quaker Meeting House. As the play highlights the complex nature of domestic abuse and the implications of funding cuts, may it help people respond to those in need in our own community, while raising funds for a local Women's refuge.

### **Wed 2**

We pray for all trying to give up a behaviour that has become a harmful habit. Help them focus on the benefits that change will bring, and strengthen their resolve day by day, that they may resist temptation and overcome any setbacks. May they find that you make a straight path for those who trust in you.

### **Thur 3**

Following August's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Operation Banner, we pray for our veterans (over 300,000 of them) who served in Northern Ireland during the Troubles, remembering the 1441 Armed Forces personnel who died as a result of operations there and paramilitary actions in other countries. Bring healing, reconciliation and forgiveness wherever it is needed. Comfort those who mourn, especially those who attended the recent service at The National Memorial Arboretum.

### **Fri 4**

Lord of Creation, we thank you for Warwick's waterways, their wildlife, and the peace and beauty they offer. Bless and inspire Trevor Langley and all attending his guided tow-path tour today.

### **Sat 5**

Three-in-one God, bless the ministry and mission of Churches Together in Warwick. As we unite our prayers today with those offered at this month's Prayer Breakfast (at St Michael's, Budbrooke) we pray you will continue to encourage, shape and grow the community of all who pray in Warwick, that as we work together, guided by you, each person and institution in our town, and many beyond, may be supported through prayer.

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**Sun 6**

**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
after Trinity**

We give thanks for the **Warwick Words History Festival** and the enrichment it offers to many. Guide our thoughts as we reflect on the power of words to share and shape, harm and heal. O Lord, help us choose and use our words wisely. May your word be a lantern to our feet and a light to our path.

**Mon 7**

O Lord, who healed the woman bent double, we pray today for all who live with back pain. Bring them comfort and healing.

**Tue 8**

We thank you for the rich musical life of this town, asking you to bless efforts to make music more widely available to people of all ages, abilities and incomes. We pray today for **Leamington Music**, its director, organisers, performers, venues and audiences.

**Wed 9**

As Warwickshire College students gather for their graduation at St Mary's this week, we thank you for the opportunities they have had, and celebrate their successes. May they know you alongside them as they begin the next chapter in their lives.

**Thu 10**

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. As **Prisons Week** approaches, we pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with you, in your strength and in your Spirit, now and every day. Amen

**Fri 11**

Thank you for the opportunity our robed choirs have to sing your praises in Poland next August, and for the musical, social and cultural benefits such a tour offers them. Bless their fundraising for this project. We pray that tonight's Friends of the Choir Quiz Night and Fish and Chip Supper will be an occasion for fun and fellowship in support of our choristers.

**Sat 12**

We give thanks and pray for parents, and all who work with children in schools and churches. Please bless Catherine, Oliver, Mark, Alycia and all others involved with young people in Warwick's churches. Inspire all attending today's 'Empowered' conference as they share ideas about nurturing faith in children.

**Sun 13**

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
after Trinity**

On Christian Blind Mission Sunday we pray for the many children and adults in the world's poorest places who have treatable blindness but live overlooked by those around them and forgotten by the world. Bless the work of **Christian Blind Mission** to restore sight to them. May collections in churches across the country provide funds to help make this possible.

**Mon 14**

God With Us, we pray for all whose ability to see your works, experience your love or put their trust in you is restricted by scepticism. Grant them the resources they need to receive a seed of faith, then, Lord, send rains to water it, and help it grow.

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**Tue 15**

Heavenly Father, who enters into human suffering through your son Jesus, we pray for all who mourn the loss of a baby. Comfort them in their sorrow. As the **Wave of Light** sweeps around the globe tonight, may the candles lit in memory of the brief lives make visible the flames of love keeping vigil on their family's hearts.

**Wed 16**

*Our actions are our future.* (UN **#World Food Day** slogan) God of the Everyday, as we eat a meal, bring to mind the UN goal to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030. We pray for the hastening of the action needed by many for the hungry to be fed, and for a healthy, sustainable diet to be affordable and accessible to all.

**Thu 17**

Ignatius of Antioch

*Nothing is more precious than peace, by which all war, in Heaven and on earth, is brought to an end. (I of A)* On **Conflict Resolution Day**, we give thanks for all who help people find creative, peaceful means of resolving conflict, by mediation, arbitration and conciliation. We pray such strategies may bring your peace in situations of conflict in the news or on our hearts today.

**Fri 18**

Luke the Evangelist

As we commemorate St Luke, we give thanks for the care he took to research and write a Gospel so sweeping in scope yet rich in detail. Remembering his interest in physical as well as spiritual healing, we pray for the success of tonight's fundraising ball at the Hilton for **Myaware**, supporting families affected by Myasthenia Gravis. Comfort and sustain those living with this rare condition, especially those known locally who have recently been diagnosed.

**Sat 19**

Heavenly Father, bless everyone involved in our town Mop Fair this year. We welcome those who work so hard to bring light, sound and excitement for us all to enjoy. May the joy of sharing fun and friendship, bring us together as a community so that we can rejoice in your endless love. Amen

**Sun 20**

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
after Trinity

We remember especially today all who are journeying with grief, guilt, fear, sickness or weariness. Lift their eyes and their hearts to you, O Lord. Preserve and keep them, shade and shelter them day and night, keep them from all evil; keep their lives. Watch over their going out and their coming in from this time on and forevermore. *(adapted from Psalm 121)*

**Mon 21**

As we enjoy the new season's crop of apples, we give thanks for the **Coventry Peace Orchard**, set up by D-Day veteran Dennis Davison, with apple trees from orchards in Normandy, where he and others fought for peace. May it play a valuable part in Coventry's Healing & Reconciliation Project. We pray for people of all ages who visit the orchard. As they spend time there may they find peace that will draw them into your love.

**Tue 22**

We pray for those who live and work in Cape Road, Chandley Row, Chandley Wharf, Landor Road and Hanworth Road, and all who pass along the Warwick Road A46. Bless them according to their needs and may each glimpse something today that will bring their thoughts and hearts closer to you.

**Wed 23**

We give thanks for medical research that offers hope to those with debilitating medical conditions, and we pray for all who fear that treatments may be beyond their means. Among them we pray for Warwick mum **Cath** and her fundraising efforts for treatment to halt the progress of her Multiple Sclerosis.

**Thu 24**

On World Polio Day, we pray for all involved in the **Global Polio Eradication Initiative**. Grant them the resources and political support needed to eliminate the disease, that every last child may be safe. Locally, we pray for Warwick Rotary's activities to raise funds for the **End Polio** campaign and support **The British Polio Fellowship**. Bless all hosting and attending this afternoon's tea party for local people who have had polio.

**Fri 25**

As we pray the Lord's Prayer, guide our reflections on 'Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven'. Bring something of ourselves or the events of the day into focus through its lens, that we may pray with fresh insight and renewed urgency.

**Sat 26**

With the **CMM Sisters** in Tanzania we praise you for the gift of education and give thanks that all the Sisters in secondary education performed well, passing their exams and completing their courses. We also thank you for the success of those who took exams in special courses. Bless the Sisters as they use and share what they have received for the benefit of the wider community, and in doing so, pass on your grace to others.

**Sun 27**

**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
after Trinity**

We give thanks that West Midlands Ambulance Service has been rated as Outstanding for a second time by the Care Quality Commission, and celebrate the commitment of its leaders and crews. Sustain them physically and emotionally as they respond with speed, skill and compassion to people in their hour of need.

**Mon 28**

**Simon and Jude**

O Lord, we thank you for those who explore creative ways to improve the quality of life of others, praying today for the Gents on Tour group at Priors House, which enables male residents to continue to enjoy sporting fixtures. May it inspire others to seek ways for older people to maintain and develop interests.

**Tue 29**

As preparations are finalised for the annual Mayor of Warwick's Fashion Show tonight at St Mary's, we give thanks for all that Cllr Murphy does to promote local businesses and to support charitable causes. Bless all who will benefit from this event, through **The Mayor's Charities** and St Mary's Restoration Fund.

**Wed 30**

We give thanks for all who boldly share their faith in Jesus, and today pray for Rev Nick Stanyon, the URC Synod Evangelist, who spent the summer spreading the Gospel message at Car Boot sales. May those he met remember their encounter, hear you knocking on the door of their hearts and invite you in.

**Thu 31**

From ghoulies and ghosties and long-leggedy beasties and things that go bump in the night, Good Lord, deliver us! (*Scottish trad.*)