

*Thank you for using this diary to support our communities – locally, nationally and globally – through prayer, and thank you to those who have contributed prayers and ideas this month. Feel free to use the diary as flexibly as you like to respond to the needs of others as we watch and wait for the ‘new normal’ to emerge. The [blue country names](#) offer an opportunity to pray for countries at other stages of their encounter with Covid. You are invited to share ideas for July’s diary with Kirsteen Robson, ideally by 15<sup>th</sup> June ([prayerdiary@stmaryswarwick.org.uk](mailto:prayerdiary@stmaryswarwick.org.uk) or 07799 682872). **Highlighted words** contain links to Bible readings and other related material. If you would like to receive future editions of the diary directly by email, please contact Kirsteen (see above).*

### Mon 1

The Visit of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
to Elizabeth (transf'd)

Lord, on the feast of the Visitation we thank you for the openness of Mary and her cousin Elizabeth who each allowed your higher purposes to be worked out through their lives, despite the considerable cultural prejudices of their time. May we keep in tune with your bigger picture for our lives, and for your world, so that we too will have the courage and trust to say ‘Yes’ to your call.

### Tue 2

Nicaragua  
Dominican Republic  
Tajikistan  
Sudan

Lord Jesus, teacher and friend, we pray for all returning to school this week: for those who have worked so hard to meet the guidelines, making schools the safe, but still joyous places where minds are stimulated and friendships thrive; for returning children, excited, keen, eager, but at the same time anxious and confused. Lord, keep them safe in your loving arms.

### Wed 3

Sao Tome and  
Principe

We give thanks for all who shoulder special responsibility for shaping and steering the life, work and worship of churches. Bless and encourage them as financial and practical matters are complicated by Covid, and inspire them as they discern the way ahead. We pray for St Mary’s PCC and its committees.

### Thu 4

Democratic  
Republic of Congo  
Haiti

80 years after the evacuation of troops from Dunkirk we give thanks for the courage of all who sailed out and the sacrifice of those who did not return. We pray that commemorative events planned by the Association of Dunkirk Little Ships can take place later and that reunions will be one day be possible.

### Fri 5

We give thanks and praise for the wonders of creation, from sea and mountain, forest and plain to sparrows on a window box.

### Sat 6

Nepal  
Kenya

Lord, we give thanks for and ask you to bless **A time to say Goodbye** – fortnightly online services offered by Castle Hill Baptist Church to help those who are bereaved but unable to attend funerals to say goodbye to friends and family. May those whose loved ones are remembered today find comfort.

## Sun 7

Trinity Sunday

El Salvador

Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, help us to recognise and grow the seeds of your kingdom in our midst. Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us and redeem our transgressions. Holy Spirit, breath of the living God, sustain us and rekindle in us the fire of your love.

## Mon 8

Ethiopia

Madagascar

Maldives

After VE Day we call to mind the members of the Armed Forces who went on to serve in the Far East and Pacific Islands... And we remember refugees, POWs, Land Girls and evacuees who were still returning to people or places they'd not seen for several years... Heavenly Father, help us learn lessons from the past, that we may never underestimate the human cost of war.

## Tue 9

Columba,

Bishop of Iona

Serbia

Lord Jesus, this Tuesday of **Carers Week**, bless all who provide care both seen and unseen, in our midst and in our community. Give them strength and wisdom, keep them safe and may they know that they are not alone. 'Be a bright flame before them, a guiding star above them, a smooth path below them, and a kindly shepherd behind us all, today, tonight and for ever.' (St C, adapted)

## Wed 10

Mayotte

Somalia

Sierra Leone

We pray for all people affected by any type of diabetes. May each person know your love and help in their lives. Bless the work of **Diabetes UK** especially when normal services are affected by coronavirus. We pray for the realisation of their vision of creating a world where diabetes can do no harm.

## Thu 11

Corpus Christi

Central African Republic

We give thanks for the sacrament of the Eucharist and pray that, in receiving the body of Christ, we are empowered and impelled to offer our lives, as part of the Body of Christ to serve and care for others. Echoing the words of Teresa of Avila: 'Christ, you have no body now on earth but ours... Ours are the eyes through which your compassion must look out on the world.'

## Fri 12

Mali

Benin

Yemen

Syria

Lord, we give thanks for all who have continued to work out in the community, and pray for their protection as changing government advice continues to adjust their number. Thank you for the workers busy making progress on Stanks Island while the roads are quieter. We also remember with gratitude essential shop workers, all who deliver post, milk, groceries and purchases, and those who collect refuse and recycling.

## Sat 13

Chad

Paraguay

Eternal Father, we ask a blessing as we give grateful thanks for your loyal servant Elizabeth, our Queen, on this her official birthday. By her example as a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, may she continue as a shining maternal light of truth and inspiration, as in recent challenging times and into the future.

## Sun 14

First Sunday  
after Trinity

Mauritania

As we hear in today's Gospel reading of Jesus' ministry in all the cities and villages, we remember all who answer your call to travel from place to place working in your name. At St Mary's we pray especially for volunteers of the **Mercy Ships** (today's planned Outward Giving charity), many of whom have returned home to help their national health services combat Covid-19.

## Mon 15

Eswatini  
Jamaica  
Mozambique

As the country continues to feel its way out of lockdown, we pray for all who work in non-essential retail. Give them wisdom in their decisions about when and how to open to keep staff and customers safe and businesses afloat. Grant customers the combination of confidence, caution, consideration and patience they need as they learn new ways to shop.

## Tue 16

Richard, Bishop  
of Chichester

Thanks be to you, our Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which you have given us, for all the pains and insults which you have borne for us. Most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. *(Richard of Chichester)*

## Wed 17

Palestine  
Rwanda

At the start of **Breathe Easy Week** please bless the **British Lung Foundation** and all who work for them, making sure that one day everyone will breathe clean air with healthy lungs. Protect all who are shielding or who are at greater risk from coronavirus because of their underlying conditions.

## Thu 18

Myanmar  
Libya  
Vietnam

Lord, our Refuge, we pray for people displaced by war or conflict. Protect and sustain them, especially those facing additional hardship caused by Covid-19. Keep hope alive in their hearts that the day will come when they can return home in safety. Bless initiatives for **Refugee Week 2020**, that people's collective imagining and **Simple Acts** can bring about a changed world.

## Fri 19

Liberia  
Gabon

Today we remember people who have been bereaved by suicide. May they know you to be a companion and comforter on their journey of grief. We pray for the work of **Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide** and all who are being supported by them, whether recently bereaved or months or years along.

## Sat 20

Zambia  
Mauritius  
Isle of Man  
Venezuela  
Equatorial Guinea

On the eve of MND Awareness Day we pray for all who are living with Motor Neurone Disease and give thanks for the work of the **MND Foundation** to fund and promote research, and offer support to people. Locally, we pray for Rev Andrew Laird, who was recently diagnosed with MND. Please bless all he is doing to raise awareness of this life-changing disease and funds to support the charity. We thank you for the £900 raised by the recent Joseph Singalong and the joy the event gave to so many.

## Sun 21

**Second Sunday  
after Trinity**

Togo

On Father's Day we pray: Dear Lord, through your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, you have revealed yourself to be a loving Father who cares for us. You hear us whenever we call out to you, whatever our circumstances, and you lift us up, giving us hope and strength. We thank you. Help us live out the purposes you have intended for each one of us, to the glory of your name.

## Mon 22

Cape Verde

Lord of the universal and the local, we pray for all who live and work in Ansell Way, Saltisford, Deerpark Drive, Sharpe Close, Trueman Close and Vine Lane. Be to them a loving presence and guiding hand as they respond to the latest lockdown advice.

## Tue 23

Congo

Loving Father, who gave the gift of marriage, with vows made until death's parting, comfort and uphold all who mourn the passing of their spouse. Reassure them that their loved ones are safe, and that you are with them too as they carry on day by day.

## Wed 24

Gibraltar  
French Guiana  
Brunei

Father, we pray for people and their families living with dementia. Reassure and sustain all who are confused by self-isolation or social distancing, those missing vital support and fellowship; those fearing that when 'normal' life resumes, they may have forgotten how to do tasks done previously without a thought, and those who feel sad, frustrated or angry that precious time is slipping by.

## Thu 25

Tanzania  
Cambodia  
Guadeloupe

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the **CMM Sisters in Tanzania**, praising you for their continued steadfastness in the faith of our Lord and Saviour. In these difficult times, we thank you for the knowledge that, just as we pray for the safe-keeping of the Sisters and the communities they serve, so the Sisters in their various Houses are praying for St Mary's and the people of our parish.

## Fri 26

Trinidad and Tobago  
Aruba  
Martinique  
Monaco

We give thanks for the care given in all our local residential homes, praying especially today for staff at Lillington House, The Helen Ley Care Centre and Galanos House. Give them strength to meet the current challenges, including keeping residents in regular contact with loved ones at a distance. We pray for the needs of the homes, whether seeking to recruit qualified staff or people to make tea, wash up, clean, answer the phone and talk to residents.

## Sat 27

Bermuda  
Barbados  
Uganda  
Guyana

Lord Jesus, who brought joy to the world, we give thanks to all who bring joy to others. As garden centres reopen we give thanks for those who gave their plants to local care homes. And we thank you for the charity **Kissing it Better**, who have been singing at a safe distance to older people at The Lord Leycester Hospital, Park View and in some Warwick streets. Help us find ways to share our gifts to encourage others.

## Sun 28

**Third Sunday  
after Trinity**  
Cayman Islands  
Sint Maarten  
Liechtenstein

Lord, as a people given the gift of life through the death of another, we thank you for the vision and generosity of individuals and their families who consent to share their organs after death. We pray that the recent change of English law about organ donation to an **opt-out system** will lead to more lives being saved. May people understand that the choice to donate is still theirs, and feel comfortable with whatever choice they make.

## Mon 29

**Peter and Paul,  
Apostles**  
Bahamas  
Guinea-Bissau

Lord Jesus, who taught his disciples to fish for people, help us follow the example of Saints Peter and Paul to share your good news wherever you lead us, that you may draw them safely in. We pray too for all who have slipped through the government's financial safety net and have been left without an income: may all who ask for help receive support to find a way through.

## Tue 30

(+134 others)

We give thanks for the police and the difficult job they do to uphold the law and support community life. Protect them as they face extra pressure and danger policing in these Covid times.