



St. Mary's
Warwick's Church of Treasures

September 2020

Prayer Diary

Thank you for using these prayers to support our local, national and global communities, and thank you to everyone who has contributed prayers and ideas this month. Please use the diary as you like to respond to the needs of others. The [blue country names](#) remind us of countries at various stages of their Covid journey. You are invited to share ideas for October's diary with Kirsteen Robson (prayerdiary@stmaryswarwick.org.uk or 07799 682872) ideally by the 15th September. **Highlighted words** are links to Bible readings and other material. If you'd like to receive the diary by email, please contact Kirsteen.

Tue 1

[...India](#)
[Brazil](#)
[USA](#)

As some community centres and social groups start to meet again, we pray that people will step forward in faith and safety to support local events. We remember T4U and Woodloes Tavern Community Café as they welcome everyone to their coffee mornings, giving thanks for all who have made this possible.

Wed 2

[Colombia](#)
[Philippines](#)
[Russia](#)

Lord God, thank you that you have redeemed us and called us by name to love and serve you in the newness of life. We pray for all who are seeking to discern your direction for them. At St Mary's we pray particularly for Alycia, Ben and Nicholas, each exploring the next stage of their vocation in church ministry.

Thu 3

[Iraq](#)
[Mexico](#)
[Bangladesh](#)
[Iran](#)

As schools, colleges and universities re-open, we pray for all those entrusted with the formation of our young people. We pray for a wider vision for education to be realised, beyond what is easily measurable in terms of knowledge and exams. Send forth passionate leaders who will create centres of learning infused with Christian values of respect and dignity; hope and aspiration; living well in community; and growing in wisdom.

Fri 4

[South Africa](#)

We give thanks for the CJ Events stewards at the barriers on Leamington's Parade, working long shifts with good cheer whatever the weather. Bless the search to grow the team.

Sat 5

[France](#)

On **International Charity Day** we give thanks for all who help others through volunteering and philanthropic activities, and for all that they do to alleviate suffering of many kinds.

Sun 6

13th Sunday
after Trinity

[Spain](#)
[Indonesia](#)

Holy Mary, mother of Christ, mother of the Church, we follow in your footsteps through doorways wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship but narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and strife. We cross thresholds smooth enough to be no stumbling block to children, but strong enough to turn back the tempters' power. Holy Mary, we give thanks for your always warm welcome. Pray for us sinners. Amen.

Mon 7

Ukraine
Germany
Saudi Arabia
Chile

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)
Father forgive us, we pray, and keep us under the shadow of your mercy in this time of worldwide suffering and distress. Send forth your healing spirit to be renewed afresh in the work of Coventry Cathedral as an international symbol of peace, forgiveness, and redemption. We join our prayers with the **Litany of Reconciliation**, said in the cathedral daily at noon.

Tue 8

Birth of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

Lord God, on this commemoration of the birth of Jesus' mother Mary, we pray for all who have become 'brides of Christ', extending your hand in human form from communities around the world. We ask especially for your blessing on the **CMM Sisters** (Community of St Mary of Nazareth and Calvary) in Tanzania and Zambia as they give thanks and celebrate on their Community Day.

Wed 9

Columba,
Bishop of Iona

Prince of Peace, we pray for **Knit for Peace** and all who make the hand-knitted clothes and blankets it sends to those in need at home and abroad. Thank you that knitting (and crochet) is fun and therapeutic, brings people together and gives a way to help others in need. Please bless both the knitters and the recipients.

Thu 10

Turkey
Ecuador
UK

On World Suicide Prevention Day we pray for all efforts to raise awareness of ways everyone can **take a minute** that could change the course of another's life. Lord of life, hold firmly onto all who are feeling anxious, desperate or suicidal now. May they find someone who can listen with compassion to help restore hope.

Fri 11

Bolivia
Kuwait

God of all creation, as Morton Morrell Agricultural College celebrates its 70th anniversary year, we give thanks for those who have told their stories sharing the different paths they have taken within the farming community and we ask for your blessing on students past, present and future.

Sat 12

Pakistan
Poland
Netherlands
Lebanon

We remember those who are in prison and have faced further restrictions in recent months. We take delight in the initiative to set up a take-away meal service from The Clink restaurant run by the inmates at Brixton Prison. Bless this and other programmes of **The Clink Charity** as they evolve, that these may continue to offer training and experience and have a positive impact on reoffending rates of those who take part.

Sun 13

14th Sunday
after Trinity

We pray for all the young people of our parish. We miss our choristers, our servers, our Sunday School and our young families. We entrust them all into your care and pray that they and their families will continue to receive spiritual encouragement; through church events, and from their parents, schools and friends.

Mon 14

Holy Cross Day
Italy

Heavenly Father, as we look to the Holy Cross for reassurance, direction and comfort, we remember the ultimate sacrifice made by Our Lord Jesus who suffered for us so that we might be saved. On Holy Cross Day, we pray that this powerful symbol of our faith unites us in your family, gives us strength in times of hardship and reminds us daily of the love that Our Lord has shown us all.

Tue 15

UAE
Qatar
Greece

Coming in on a wing and a prayer, we give thanks for our Royal Air Force veterans as we remember the 80th anniversary of The Battle of Britain. We ask you to bless the members of the local branch of the RAF Association and Air Cadets who would usually meet for their annual service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving at All Saints' Church, Leamington.

Wed 16

South Korea
Gambia
Portugal
Belgium

400 years after *The Mayflower* set sail, we give thanks for the courage and determination of the Pilgrims as they ventured out in search of the New World. Just as they were helped to settle by the local people, then in time and in turn were able to give something back by sharing their first harvest, so we ask for eyes to identify those who have helped us and for the imagination to see how we can bless them in return.

Thu 17

Canada
Switzerland

We remember couples who are marrying this month, and at St Mary's pray especially today for Maria and Alex. Hold them safely in your hands, that their love for each other may deepen and that, supported by their family and friends, they may walk together in faith and hope into whatever their future brings.

Fri 18

Oman
Maldives
Egypt

As individuals, families and social bubbles from all over the country take part in the **Great British Beach Clean 2020**, we give you thanks for the marvels and mysteries of the sea. We pray for wide-scale adoption of The National Marine Conservation Society's request that we keep beaches clean, cause no harm to marine life and help to protect ecosystems.

Sat 19

Kyrgyzstan
Tunisia

As we enjoy the autumn fruits we give thanks for all who have come to help gathered in the harvest. May we all play our part by supporting **British Food Fortnight**, enjoying the wonderful bounty of food we grow in this country. We also pray for the farmers who have had expensive farm machinery stolen.

Sun 20

15th Sunday
after Trinity

Heavenly Father, who rained bread on the Israelites each morning in the wilderness, and they ate their fill, we give thanks for the work of **Magic Breakfast** and ask you to bless them as they identify vulnerable children in their partner schools and provide healthy breakfast food to ensure that no child is too hungry to learn.

Mon 21

Matthew, Apostle
and Evangelist
Singapore

Lord Jesus, whose gospel stories show time and again that you saw the people behind their conditions, on World Alzheimer's Day we pray that the **Dementia Friends** movement will continue to grow. May it increase understanding and awareness of the nature and causes of dementia, so more people act with kindness and challenge the stigma around dementia.

Tue 22

Eswatini
Belarus
Aruba

We give thanks that the postponed Mayor-making ceremony was able to go ahead in St Mary's at the end of July, and pray for our new Mayor, Councillor Terry Morris. We ask for your blessing on his year in office, and that your guiding hand may be upon him as he works to raise awareness of, and funding for, charities that provide support around mental wellbeing.

Wed 23

Syria
Mozambique
Zimbabwe

Along with local families we give thanks for the support of the charity **Jeans for Genes**. We pray for the 30,000 children who are born with a genetic disorder and for the new Genetic Testing programme offered by the NHS. Lord, please be with families who choose to have genetic counselling and guide them as they make decisions about whether or not to have a family.

Thu 24

Malawi
Cabo Verde
Malta

Today we pray for people who live, work and worship in Cape Court, Saltisford, St Christopher's Close, Upper Cape, Lower Cape and Sir Thomas White Close. Father in heaven, who knows all our needs better than we do ourselves, draw them ever closer to you, that they may ask, seek and knock, then receive, find, and enter through that door to your kingdom.

Fri 25

Cuba
Uganda

Lord God, as we spend time in prayer today, we give thanks for all that we have appreciated or enjoyed but must say goodbye to: BBC afternoon Newsround, the Argos Catalogue which gave so many a chance to dream, the staff at the Warwick branch of the TSB, and other people and things that are now lost to us...

Sat 26

Jordan
Lithuania
Rwanda
Hong Kong

As higher education communities reconvene across the country, we pray for all who work, learn and live together. We ask for your blessing on them remembering especially staff and students at Warwick University and young people we know returning to their studies elsewhere or going away from home to study for the first time. May all the careful planning to create Covid-safe ways for students to study and socialise be successful.

Sun 27

16th Sunday
after Trinity

Jesus, light of the World, we pray for Eleanor as she is baptised today. Cast your bright rays on the path ahead of her as she grows, that she may walk in your ways and in turn share your light with others. Strengthen and guide Eleanor's parents and godparents as they nurture and guide her on her journey of faith.

Mon 28

Angola
Guyana
Slovenia

We give thanks for the **RAF Benevolent Fund** and as they close Princess Marina House we remember the care offered to members of the Guinea Pig Club and casualties from more recent conflicts. We give thanks for the pioneering work of Archibald McIndoe which laid the basis for today's plastic surgery techniques.

Tue 29

Michael and
All Angels

Almighty God, Father and maker of all that's visible and invisible in heaven and earth, we can barely begin to imagine the hosts of angels attuned to your will, guiding, defending, ministering and bringing messages. As we lift our hearts, minds, hands and voices to you, make us aware that we join their songs of everlasting praise.

Wed 30

Jerome, translator
of the scriptures
Mali
Hungary...

Lord God, we give thanks for the work of the **Bible Society**, translating the Bible and distributing copies worldwide. We pray for your continued blessing as the charity presses on despite the difficulties facing Bible mission caused by Covid. Inspire the Bible translators who are working tirelessly to share your word with more people, and sustain all those who are still waiting to read your word in their mother tongue.