

Thank you for using this diary to support our local, national and global communities through prayer, and thank you to everyone who has shared suggestions and prayers this month. Feel free to use the diary flexibly as you pray and to share prayer(s) with others. The **green country names** remind us of countries at various stages of their Covid-19 journey. You're warmly invited to send ideas for August's diary, ideally by 10th July, to 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, or you know anyone who would like a paper copy but can't print one out, please contact the prayer team (see above).

Thu 1

...Thailand

O God, we pray for today's launch of **Fire Unlocked**, the Warwick and Leamington Deanery Prayer Walk, and for widespread involvement, that your outrageously generous love may be taken, physically or virtually, to every road of our Deanery.

Fri 2

Cuba
Nigeria
North Macedonia
South Korea

Lord God, we give thanks and pray for all who are stationed at the MOD Kineton. As soldier Si Hannaforth finishes his mammoth triathlon fundraising challenge, we ask you to protect him and all others who work in Bomb Disposal Teams. May the money raised for the Felix Fund help support members of the armed forces and police with the impact of their work in bomb search and disposal, as they risk their own lives to keep us safe.

Sat 3

Myanmar
Latvia
Algeria

As City of Culture celebrations get under way, we give thanks for all who are using their talents to make the year's events possible. We pray that events may take place safely, bringing joy and happiness into people's lives and raising the profile of the city. We pray for the **Open Heaven** Prayer Walk for Coventry, asking your blessing on the people of every street in the city.

Sun 4

The Fifth
Sunday after
Trinity
Albania

God of all, since the time of the Apostles you have inspired the church to appoint people to particular roles to take part in your mission. Today we pray for the curates of St Nicholas' and All Saints' churches as they are ordained deacon at the Cathedral. Pour your Holy Spirit into Eira and Sarah, that they may build flourishing relationships with their respective parish communities, serving them and you honestly and faithfully.

Mon 5

Estonia
Norway
Zambia
Kyrgyzstan

On the day of the **NHS Big Birthday Tea**, we give thanks and pray for the ordinary yet extraordinary people who continue to go above and beyond for us and our loved ones. May the outpouring of love and gratitude be reflected in the funds raised to enable NHS Charities Together to provide extra support for NHS staff and volunteers as well as patients and their families.

Tue 6

Uzbekistan
Afghanistan
Montenegro

We pray for those who have stayed in for the whole year and are now afraid to go out and mix in the wider world. We give thanks for the Thriving Communities Fund and pray that GPs will use the social prescribing initiative to encourage people to feel comfortable in social settings. We ask for your blessing on all those going back to The Live Life group at The Gap.

Wed 7

Ghana
Finland
Mongolia

Lord, we pray for clergy, Readers and all whose roles involve leadership and organisation in our parishes. At St Mary's we pray especially for Vaughan, Doreen, Kirsteen, Mary and all members of the PCC. Guide and strengthen them, dear Lord, as they work towards the realisation of the Church's Vision for this decade: to be Christ-centred and shaped by the **Five Marks of Mission**.

Thu 8

China

As we welcome tourists to our town, we pray with thanks for the staff at the refurbished Visitor Information Centre. May local businesses flourish as people enjoy all our town and its attractions have to offer.

Fri 9

Cameroon
El Salvador
Cyprus
Namibia

We pray for all who live in our local villages and give thanks for the **Warm Hub Services** including a Mobile Warm Hub, set up by the Warwickshire Rural Community Charity to offer refreshments and bring communities together after lockdown. Bless all who run and use these Hubs and guide the development of Hubs to meet specific needs. May each cup of tea or warm meal shared in the company of others help drive away loneliness and strengthen community ties.

Sat 10

Loving God, we give thanks for the return of the Warwick Healing On the Streets team to the Market Square. Bless and protect them as they listen and pray for healing in your mighty name.

Sun 11

**The Sixth
Sunday after
Trinity**

On Sea Sunday we join **The Mission for Seafarers** as they pray: Lord God, we depend on you for life itself, and on seafarers to meet so many of our daily needs. Watch over all who go down to the sea in ships – on business, for leisure, or to rescue those in peril or difficulty. Keep them from danger, befriend them in loneliness, and bring them safely home to those they love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*MTSF Prayer Diary*)

Mon 12

Mozambique
Maldives
Uganda

Gracious God, you have united us all in one body. We thank you for the work of Rev Barbara at Warwick, Whitnash and Wellesbourne Methodist Churches, in the Churches Together movement and in the local communities. As she leaves to retire, surround her with your Spirit. Give her congregations the courage to release her to a new calling and bless their remembering of all she and David have done in your name together.

Tue 13

Luxembourg

As cries of 'Not Out!' ring out across the country's cricket pitches, we give thanks for the grants from The English Cricket Board and the Lord's Taverners Partnership, who are encouraging young people living with a disability to participate in games across the county.

Wed 14

Botswana

Lord God, creator of all things, we thank you for the abundance and diversity of life on earth and pray for situations where people and animals struggle to share their living space happily.

Thu 15

Singapore
Jamaica
Ivory Coast

Following the closure of The King's Table Christian café in Kenilworth, we say thank you and farewell to the volunteers who made everyone welcome and offered a quiet space for those in need. We give thanks for the blessings of food and friendship enjoyed in that place for the past 17 years, and pray that regular customers will receive your hospitality elsewhere.

Fri 16

Cambodia
Senegal

Lord of the dance, we remember with gratitude the annual Warwick Folk Festival and give thanks that the organisers prioritised their duty of care to staff, artists, traders, audience and the local community when deciding to postpone it until next year. Bless all in their enjoyment of folk music and dancing until meeting again in 2022.

Sat 17

Madagascar
Zimbabwe

As people rest or play beside still waters, streams, rivers, ponds and lakes or enjoy time by the sea, may Warwickshire Fire Brigade's message to 'Be Water Aware' help save lives. We remember the 400+ people who accidentally drowned last year and lift up their families and friends as they mourn their loss.

Sun 18

**The Seventh
Sunday after
Trinity**

Heavenly Father, loving Shepherd, we thank you that you care for your flock, walking alongside them even in the darkest valley, reaching out gently with your rod and staff to provide reassurance of your presence. We pray that all attending Churches Together in Warwick's Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance this afternoon, under the trees at Warwick Cemetery may be comforted.

Mon 19

Democratic
Republic of Congo
Angola

As the country's thoughts focus once more on freedom from Covid-related restrictions, we reflect with gratitude in your presence on the freedoms that so many of us have retained despite recent circumstances... We bring before you all who long for such liberty: strengthen and sustain them and make known to them the spiritual freedom proclaimed by Jesus.

Tue 20

Sudan
Malawi

Lord God, we give thanks for the work of the Mothers' Union during Lockdown, supporting families, teachers, nurses, care home staff, shop workers and lonely people, knitting gifts and planting flowers – all enhanced by the power of prayer.

Wed 21

Cabo Verde
Rwanda
Trinidad and Tobago
Malta
Australia

Heavenly Father, as children, teachers and come to the end of the summer term of a year with so many additional challenges, send them your peace. We pray that they may be able to relax and enjoy time with their families and friends. Some will have found the past academic year exhausting, confusing or distressing, but help them all to rejoice in those new things that were unexpectedly successful. And as most prepare to holiday in this country this year, may sun restore them and your everlasting light shine upon them.

Thu 22

Mary Magdalene
Réunion

God of forgiveness, give us hearts as big as St Mary Magdalene's, so we too may experience the illimitable love she showed in the presence of your Son. Being strengthened by that love, may we announce Christ's resurrection to the world, continuing her work as the 'apostle to the apostles'.

Fri 23

French Guiana
Syria
Gabon
Guinea

On the date for the Opening of the rescheduled 2020 Summer Olympic Games, we remember all involved in sport and music events that have been beset with uncertainty, postponement, cancellation or have taken place with greatly limited capacity. Guide and uphold those bearing the burden of decision-making, and give those taking part the reassurance that whatever happens (or doesn't) they can entrust their future into the safety of your hands.

Sat 24

God of love, we pray for Sonya and Marc on the day of their wedding at St Mary's and all who are getting married in Warwick this month.

Sun 25

The Eighth
Sunday after
Trinity
Mauritania

Forty years after its launch, we give thanks for the Flower Class Corvette Association, which is 'dropping anchor' for the last time, having met annually at The Royal Naval Club and at services in churches in Leamington. Lord, bless all who served on these escort ships, especially HMS Primula, as we remember with gratitude acts of courage, bonds of friendship, and loyalty formed between these veterans of the Royal Navy.

Mon 26

Suriname
Mayotte

As we learn to live with heightened awareness of the fragility of humankind, we give thanks and pray for all who live and work in Wathen Road, Wedgnock Green, Newburgh Crescent, Percy Road, Tatnall Grove and Peel Road. May they be drawn by your love into deeper relationship with you, each other and the planet.

Tue 27

Guyana
French Polynesia

We give thanks for the bereavement support group meeting at Chase Meadow and run by Transforming Communities Together in Warwick. Bless this important work and enable the participants to develop friendships and support networks which will help them to cope in their bereavement and to move on with their lives.

Wed 28

Eswatini
Papua New Guinea

We give thanks for the **CMM Sisters** in Tanzania and Zambia and at this time of year remember especially the Sisters who have been in education and are eagerly awaiting their final exam results. Bless all who go on to further training, Lord, and give them courage and comfort as they move away from the Houses and homes they've known.

Thu 29

Mary, Martha
and Lazarus

Today we celebrate the feast of Mary and Martha of Bethany, the sisters of Lazarus. In our families, our parishes, our dioceses and local churches, help us work together to make Christian life a Mary and Martha reality, balancing our inner spiritual life of prayer with the practical Christian activities of love, mercy and compassion.

Fri 30

Haiti

Lord of compassion, we lift up all whose lives have been affected by forced adoption which separated mothers from their babies without consent. As stories are told and tears are shed, we pray that you will wrap each person in your loving arms and grant peace in their hearts.

Sat 31

Guadeloupe
Somalia...

We pray with joy and thanksgiving for Sara and Niel as they marry at St Mary's today. Thank you for the strength you have given them in a year of plans made, remade and made again. May their marriage be a loving union of hearts and minds.