

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. The **blue country names** remind us of countries at various stages of their Covid-19 journey. **Highlighted words** contain links to Bible readings and other related material. If you would like to receive future editions 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 below). Please send requests and ideas for November's diary, ideally by **10th October**, to prayerdiary@stmaryswarwick.org.uk or 07799 682872.

Fri 1

...Vietnam
Guatemala
Sri Lanka

On the official launch of 'Warwick, a Singing Town', we pray for the success of this innovative project to promote and support singing by everyone for everyone. We pray that music directors and entrepreneurs in schools, churches, workplaces, care homes and community settings may open up the joys and benefits of singing to all, and to create the first of many 'Singing Towns'.

Sat 2

Azerbaijan
Myanmar
Slovakia
Croatia

O God, we thank you that no one is ever hidden from your sight. As Jonathan Blower prepares to run in The London Marathon, raising funds for **Missing People**, we ask you to be with the families of all who have gone missing because of mental illness or depression, and to keep alive the flame of hope. We pray for those who have lost touch with family and friends. May they know that however difficult issues may seem, there is always help and support available.

Sun 3

The 18th Sunday
after Trinity
Palestine
Uruguay
Ireland

Living Word, we thank you for the power of words to quicken people and events in our minds, and we pray for all involved in the **Warwick Words History Festival**. As Alex Smith talks today about the Legacy of Bomber Command, we remember our local RAF veteran Rusty Waughman, who was a Bomber Command pilot during WWI. Thank you for his years of work with Air Cadets, local schools and the general public, bringing history to life, so future generations will remember with greater insight those who flew through the air on a wing and a prayer.

Mon 4

Francis of Assisi

On **World Habitat Day**, we reflect that urban areas are responsible for 70% of global carbon dioxide emissions. Inspire and empower people at every level to work together with urgency and success to create sustainable, carbon-neutral, inclusive cities and towns.

Tue 5

Honduras

Lord God, who has taught your people through personal encounter, the voices of prophets, through history, law and poetry, through sensory experiences of the world around us, and through the ultimate example of Jesus your son, we give thanks and pray for all who teach today.

Wed 6

Venezuela
Dominican Republic
Denmark

Heavenly Father, to whom every life is precious, we pray for all who have served their countries in conflicts that have been played down or forgotten by many. Today we remember the heroism and humility of the men and women who served with the UN Alliance in the Korean War, answering a call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met.

Thu 7

Ethiopia

O Lord, whose words spoke the universe into being, on **National Poetry Day** we give thanks for all who weave words into rich tapestries that, hanging on the walls of the mind, make the important memorable and the elusive sit still enough for contemplation.

Fri 8

Libya
Lithuania
Oman
South Korea

Father God, whose only son shared all the frailty of our human form, we pray for all who mourn the loss of a baby. Comfort them tenderly in their grief, even as Jesus is gently cradling their children in his pierced hands. Locally, we thank you for all The **Lily-Mae Foundation** does to support families who have lost a baby through stillbirth, neonatal death, miscarriage or medical termination, and to help improve care for pregnant women.

Sat 9

Egypt

Lord God, we bring before you today all who are living with arthritis. We thank you for treatments that can help alleviate symptoms and ask you to comfort and strengthen in body and mind all who are brought low by pain, stiffness or other symptoms of their condition.

Sun 10

The 19th Sunday
after Trinity

Mongolia

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 Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day. Amen. (**Prisons Week Prayer**)

Mon 11

Slovenia
Moldova
Bahrain

On **World Sight Day** we give thanks for the precious gift of sight and pray for the international campaign to Love Your Eyes. Giving thanks for a donation from Mulberry Homes, we remember the work of Warwickshire Vision Support, who offer rehabilitation, clubs, home visits and social support to help people regain the confidence to live life to the full when they have lost their sight.

Tue 12

Lord, we give thanks for all who work with children and young people in choirs, Sunday schools, after-school groups and youth clubs, remembering especially today St Paul's monthly Lego Club.

Wed 13

Armenia
Kenya

Loving Lord, with members of the Redeemed Christian Church of God and their Pastors David and Angela Olanrewaju, we thank you for leading them to a new venue for worship. Bless their ministry at The Gap Community Centre as they seek to reveal the power and grace of Jesus to the Warwick community and to the nations.

Thu 14

On the 95th anniversary of the publication of A.A. Milne's *Winnie the Pooh*, we give thanks for the pleasure, comfort, encouragement and gentle wisdom his stories have offered to generations of children.

Fri 15

Teresa of Ávila
Qatar

As National Work Life Week draws to a close, we pray for all who are struggling to balance work, family and other commitments. Help them to discern priorities with your eyes, empower them to bring about change where needed and grant them your inner peace, that, like Teresa of Ávila, they may discover that 'love turns work to rest'.

Sat 16

Holy God, loving Creator, who has consecrated our bodies as temples of your Holy Spirit, thank you for all who encourage others to care for their physical, mental and spiritual health.

Sun 17

The 20th Sunday
after Trinity

Zambia

As **The Butterfly Effect** installation is switched on in the Market Square this evening, we give thanks for the thousand people whose images are featured, for the light they brought to the lives of those who knew them and for the bonds of love that death cannot break. Comfort those who mourn them, uphold all who give and receive care at the Myton Hospices and bless ongoing efforts to raise much needed funds for their work.

Mon 18

Nigeria

Lord God, we pray for all who are trapped in modern slavery, making our clothes, serving our food, picking our crops, working in factories, or in houses as cooks, cleaners or nannies. Open our eyes to signs of slavery around us and embolden us to challenge injustice, in your name.

Tue 19

Bosnia and
Herzegovina
Algeria
North Macedonia
Norway

As Afghan families and individuals arrive in Warwickshire, we give thanks for WDC's decision to support more people than originally planned. Thank you for the local response to appeals from local churches, Welcome Here, Carriers of Hope, and Zero, raising funds, and collecting all they will need to turn houses into homes. Help us all to be as generous with ourselves, that those who are being rehomed may soon settle socially, in neighbourhoods, schools, workplaces and faith communities.

Wed 20

Kyrgyzstan
Botswana

We give thanks for all the teaching and learning achieved in challenging circumstances in the Warwickshire College Group and we rejoice with all who are graduating at ceremonies in St Mary's this week. Bless them as they celebrate their successes so far, and go with them as they continue on their journey.

Thu 21

Uzbekistan
Albania
Afghanistan
Latvia

Creator God, whose son mastered a carpenter's tools at the side of his earthly father, we give thanks for all who use their practical skills for the benefit of others and pray that more young people will be inspired to learn a trade. Bless the students who have taken up one of the 500 apprenticeships available in Warwickshire and the firms offering sponsorship: may they find mutual fulfilment through the scheme.

Fri 22

Estonia
Mozambique
Finland

As Marle Hall, WCC's residential facility in Wales, closes its doors for the last time, we give thanks for the enthusiasm and dedication of all who have worked there over the last 50 years, delivering outdoor activities to enhance the personal development and social skills of thousands of Warwickshire school children. Bless the staff as they face fresh challenges of their own.

Sat 23

Montenegro
Zimbabwe
Namibia

Creator God, we thank you for the great variety of trees in fields and parks, streets and gardens and pray that the trees people plant in their own gardens from seeds, fruits and nuts collected in the Tree Council's annual Seed Gathering Season will flourish. Bless the 175 trees planted by Wright Hassall in the grounds of Evergreen Schools, Priors House Care Home and Myton Hospice, to celebrate their 175th anniversary.

Sun 24

The Last Sunday
after Trinity
Ghana

As *Songs of Praise* celebrates its 60th anniversary month, with thanks we ask for your blessing on all who have shared their music or faith stories with others. We remember all for whom the programme has been a source of inspiration, long before lockdown 'worshipping from home' became a thing. We rejoice too at the return of congregational singing to many churches.

Mon 25

Uganda
Cyprus

This Monday morning, we pray for all who live and work in Hanworth Road, Cape Road, Chandley Row, Chandley Wharf and Landor Road, or who travel on the Warwick bypass A46. May those among them who are suffering call out to you in prayer, and those who are cheerful sing songs of praise.

Tue 26

God of healing, we give thanks for the skill, dedication and stamina of GPs and ask you to bless and uphold them in their vocation.

Wed 27

Cambodia
El Salvador
Australia
Rwanda

Loving God, we thank you for the **CMM Sisters** in Tanzania and Zambia and pray for their safekeeping as Covid continues to spread. We pray that under President Samia Suluhu, confidence in vaccines will increase, and more people will trust them to help protect themselves and each other. We thank you that 12 Sisters were able to make vows last month and we rejoice with the Sisters in this wonderful sign of life of the CMM Community.

Thu 28

China
Singapore

God of relationship, we give thanks for all events that seek to bring people closer to each other and to the natural world. Today we pray that all attending Hedgehog Day at Hill Close Gardens will experience a sense of fellowship as they enjoy arts and crafts based on the prickly friends of the gardener.

Fri 29

Cameroon

We remember all who mourn and pray that Shelley Garland found your strength, reassurance and peace on her pilgrimage along The Way of St James whilst raising money for **Sarcoidosis UK** in memory of her daughter Suzi and ex-husband, Jay.

Sat 30

Maldives...

Lord of the years, as British Summertime ends and we turn back our clocks, we give thanks for the seasonal rhythms in our lives. Though the dark and cold of winter approach, may the light and warmth of your love dwell in our hearts and radiate to those around us.

Sun 31

The Fourth
Sunday before
Advent

Lord, as we hear again the commandment to love our neighbour as ourselves, we pray that the focus of the COP21 Climate Summit will be on those who are the most vulnerable to extreme climate events. Guide delegates to set aside national self-interest and make wise pledges to reverse the chaos human actions have caused, then give us all willing hearts to make changes and personal sacrifices needed to fulfil them.