



St. Mary's
Warwick's Church of Treasures

May 2022

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. **Highlighted words** are links to Bible readings or other material. The **green country names** remind us of countries at various stages of their Covid journey. Please share your ideas for June's diary, ideally by 10th May: prayerdiary@stmaryswarwick.org.uk or 07799 682872. If you know anyone who would like a paper copy but can't get one, or if you would like to receive the diary by email, please contact Kirsteen Robson (details above).

Sun 1

The Third
Sunday of Easter

While many countries joyfully celebrate the transition of spring to summer with parades of song, dance and blessing of blossom, we remember the parallel preparations for the Victory Parade in Russia. As sombre soldiers march alongside displays of tanks and missiles, we pray that the day will indeed come when nation shall not lift the sword against nation.

Mon 2

...Serbia
Bangladesh
Hungary

On the last day of National Pet Month, we give thanks for the joy that loyal animal companions bring to so many. We celebrate loving owners who take good care of their pets and pray that the message about the importance of responsible pet ownership will reach those who need to hear it. With gratitude we ask you to bless local animal charities who offer advice and run training classes.

Tue 3

Slovakia

Lord, we remember in our prayers today all who live or work in Victoria Street, Spring Pool, Cattell Road, Turberville Place, Albert Street and Wallwin Place. Bring joy to their homes, peace to their hearts and help to all who are in need.

Wed 4

Jordan
Georgia
Pakistan

Creator God, we thank you for the natural world and the joy and wonder inspired by local wildlife. As the British Hedgehog Preservation Society celebrates its 40th anniversary, we thank you for all it does to protect these prickly but gentle creatures. Bless its mission to spread the word about the easy steps we can take to make our gardens havens for happy, healthy 'hogs.

Thu 5

Ireland
Norway
Kazakhstan
Hong Kong
Singapore

Loving Father, whose only Son was born of a human mother, we pray for those who are struggling mentally or physically after the birth of a child, especially after initial help and concern from many sources has dwindled. We remember particularly those with post-natal depression, pelvic floor dysfunction and other after-effects that limit daily life and threaten to reshape plans for the future. Bring them compassionate and competent support from professionals, empathetic encouragement from others and the comfort and hope of knowing you see their struggle.

Fri 6

Loving God, we thank you for bringing Jane and Darrin at last to their wedding day. Bless their love that it may grow, deepen and bear fruit in their lives and in the lives of those who know them.

Sat 7

Morocco

On the last night of the Spa Theatre Company Juniors' 40th anniversary production *The Little Mermaid*, we give thanks for the company for supporting children in their ambitions on the stage, showcasing their talents and giving them life skills and confidence to perform.

Sun 8

**The Fourth
Sunday of Easter**

Bountiful God, as the doors of St Mary's remain open after the Eucharist and throughout the week, we pray that your Holy Spirit will flow abundantly from the church, carrying hope and reassurance into our town, prosperity into local shops and businesses and joy into the hearts of all who walk our streets.

Mon 9

Bulgaria
Croatia

Lord of new beginnings, we ask for your blessing on Clare as she settles into her new role as Church Administrator at St Mary's. Give her a clear mind as she learns what needs to be done, energy to meet new challenges, inspiration to find fresh solutions and a sense of fulfilment in her achievements.

Tue 10

Cuba
Lebanon
Lithuania
Tunisia

Remembering how Jesus showed his disciples his wounds from the Cross, we pray for all who gently take the hand of children of all ages who have hidden hurts deep within their souls. As SW Foundation Trust's Young Minds Matter Appeal raises funds to modernise MacGregor children's ward, we pray that the new sensory rooms, teens' area, quiet spaces and bereavement suite will become places where both bodies and minds can be healed.

Wed 11

Slovenia
Finland

A century after the death of explorer Ernest Shackleton, we remember a man whose courage and love of adventure was matched by his loyalty to his crew. We give thanks for all who lead by good example and inspire others: encourage and energise them when challenges make their task seem impossible.

Thu 12

Nepal
Belarus

God of healing and comfort, we pray for nurses around the world and give heartfelt thanks for their selfless dedication and service to those in their care. Strengthen and uphold them, Lord. Inspire people to honour promises of investment and support and to respect the rights of nurses, to help secure global good health.

Fri 13

Bolivia
UAE
Uruguay

Merciful God, as we remember those who lost their lives when the *Herald of Free Enterprise* sank 35 years ago, we pray for all who work on ferries of coastal countries around the world. We pray that ferry companies will make safety, rather than profit, their first priority. Bless the Sailors' Society, The Mission to Seafarers and all who seek to ensure that people are not in peril on the sea.

Sat 14

New Zealand
Ecuador

Lord, as the 150th FA Cup competition reaches its climax, we give a loud cheer for the 729 teams that set out on the road to this year's final, from small local clubs to the biggest names. We thank you for the opportunities the sport gives for friends and families to enjoy games together and for players to be positive role models to young people.

Sun 15

**The Fifth Sunday
of Easter**

Lord, in this awareness month, help us join the conversation about Huntington's Chorea. We pray for families all around the world living with this condition. As science offers more choices and the search for a cure continues, we ask you to embrace and guide those who make decisions for themselves which may affect the wellbeing of future generations.

Mon 16

Costa Rica
Guatemala

Generous Father, we pray for your blessing on the **CMM Sisters** in Tanzania and Zambia and with them give thanks for the support that helped provide the Solar Hot Water System at their House in the SW Highlands of Tanzania, enabling them to wash bedding at the Health Station with hot water.

Tue 17

Lord of all, as the Commonwealth Games flag stands proudly in Victoria Park, we ask for your blessing on all the preparations to welcome visitors from around the world.

Wed 18

Latvia
Azerbaijan
Panama
Saudi Arabia
Sri Lanka

As Dementia Action Week continues, we pray for all who might be living with, or are close to someone who might be living with, undiagnosed dementia. Comfort and reassure those who fear for the future. Help them understand and recognise potential dementia symptoms, give them courage to come forward for guidance and support and empower them to take the next step, at the same time improving the diagnosis process for both them and healthcare professionals.

Thu 19

Paraguay
Kuwait
Myanmar
Palestine

Father, whose Son always knew what to say and how to say it, we pray for all who find spoken communication difficult. Those who find it hard to hear or understand what's being said; who struggle with words or fluency; who lack confidence in the value of their own contribution; who are anxious about saying the wrong thing; who overcompensate to mask their trouble. Give courage to those who need it and empathy to those who do not share this social disability.

Fri 20

Dominican Republic
Estonia
Bahrain

Lord of all, as more homes are built, and churches reach out to new people in their parish, we pray for estates where there is little or no formal church presence. We give thanks for community spirit that continues to thrive and, locally, ask your blessing on all who walk along the newly resurfaced path in Bluebell Wood that was partly funded by Woodloes Park residents as they celebrated Easter.

Sat 21

Venezuela

Holy Spirit, guide our quiet time today, accepting our offering of hope and vulnerability. Give us confidence to sit patiently, let distractions come and go as we focus our attention on you. Help us be fully present to you, knowing you are fully present to us.

Sun 22

**The Sixth
Sunday of Easter**

Lord, as the congregation of St Mary's gathers for its APCM, we pray with gratitude all who've worked so hard, often at significant personal cost, in service of the church community. Bless the whole body of Christ in this place as we review the past year and look to our ministry in the year to come.

Mon 23

Moldova

Merciful Lord, we pray today with those serving sentences in prison. Give them the strength to endure the pain of separation from their loved ones. Show them how to use their experience for good and transform the heartache now to joy in the future.

Tue 24

Libya

God of Peace, as reunions, naval and air displays, church services and marches take place across the country this week, we thank you for the 30,000 Falklands Veterans who served our nation to protect others living on a group of small islands thousands of miles away.

Wed 25

Cyprus
Ukraine

On the 60th anniversary of its consecration, we give thanks for Coventry Cathedral and pray that its work will continue to inspire faith, hope and reconciliation at the heart of the city and the diocese. We pray for all who have passed through its doors over the years as they continue on their spiritual journey.

Thu 26

Ascension Day

Ethiopia
Mongolia
Armenia

Alleluia! Alleluia! Risen, ascended, glorified! Heavenly Father, as we pray today, expand our imagination to glimpse the majesty and mystery of your son's ascension and to look for the signs of your Holy Spirit in our lives and our world. Joining our prayers for the next 11 days with Christians across the world, from all denominations, we ask, seek and knock for the gift of your Holy Spirit to be poured out afresh – upon us, our friends and the church.

Fri 27

Honduras
Oman

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.' (Jn. 20.21-22) Come, Holy Spirit... breathe Your breath into me that I may be Your new creation, and breathe into life those I hold before You. (++)Justin, **Thy Kingdom Come**)

Sat 28

Bosnia and
Herzegovina...

O God, You are my God, I seek You, my soul thirsts for You; my flesh faints for You, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. (Ps. 63:1) Come, Holy Spirit... bring Your living water to my thirsty soul. Create in those I name before You a deep thirst for Your refreshment, then send Your Spirit to satisfy it. (++)Justin, **Thy Kingdom Come**)

Sun 29

**Seventh Sunday
of Easter**

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry His sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.' (Lk. 3.16) Come, Holy Spirit... remake me and those I lift before You with the fire of Your love. (++) Justin, **Thy Kingdom Come**)

Mon 30

Latvia...

'You are my Son, the Beloved; with You I am well pleased.' (Lk. 3.22) Come, Holy Spirit... Cause Your Holy Spirit to be so deeply implanted within our lives, that we might know and be instruments of Your peace. (++) Justin, **Thy Kingdom Come**)

Tue 31

**Visitation of
Mary to Elizabeth**

Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed David in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. (1 Sam. 16.13) Come, Holy Spirit... may Your anointing Spirit seep into every area of our lives, that who we are might reveal Your love. (++) Justin, **Thy Kingdom Come**)