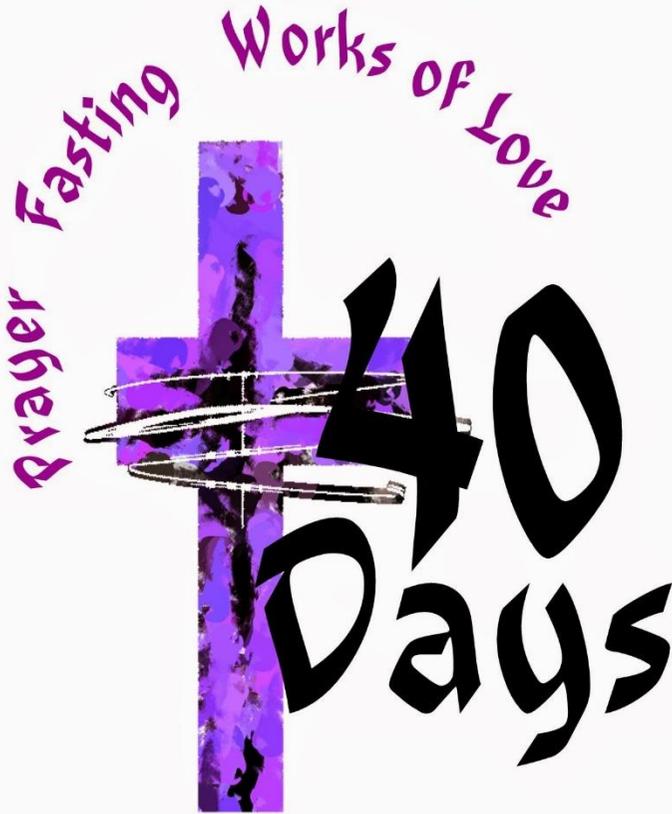


St Martin's Church WALSALL



March Prayer Diary



For those who can make it, Morning Prayer takes place throughout the week at various times (see weekly newsletter) and on a Saturday morning at 9.00am. For those who cannot make Morning Prayer, be encouraged to pray using this Morning Prayer outline on your own, remembering that sometime between 7.00am-9.30am you will not be praying alone but at the same time as other people at St Martin's. Therefore, in this way as a Church, we will be praying together. However, this Morning Prayer outline is only a guide, remember:

Pray as you can — not as you can't

Outline for Daily Prayer

A MOMENT'S QUIET	Remember, God is our Father, Jesus is Lord. The Holy Spirit is with us.
PRAISE & THANKSGIVING	Give thanks to God for Jesus and for those things we can so easily take for granted.
CONFESSION	Say sorry to God for those things that you've thought, said and done which are wrong.
BIBLE READING	Read the Bible slowly and prayerfully.
QUIET REFLECTION	Silence
PERSONAL PRAYER	Including the Prayer for today in the St Martin's Prayer Diary.
CLOSING PRAYER	Be present in all we do today, in each breath that we take, each word that we speak, each hour that we work, each hour that we rest. Lord be in all. In our dreams, hopes, successes, our disappointments, failures and fears be Lord of all. Amen.

God of Mission
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday 1st March

Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. Psalm 73:25-26.

Today, from our church family, we pray for June Scotney.

Collect for St. David's Day:

*"Almighty God,
who called your servant David to be a faithful and wise steward
of your mysteries for the people of Wales:
in your mercy, grant that, following his purity of life and
zeal for the Gospel of Christ,
we may with him receive the crown of everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and forever. Amen." (Revd. Dr Steve Griffiths.)*

Today is the Women's World day of Prayer. This year the prayers come from Slovenia.

"Heavenly Father, you know that Slovenia, like so many other countries, has been born out of war and unrest. Father, we ask that the people of Slovenia will know your holy presence, that they will be courageous and rise up against anything holding them back from the plans you have for them. Father, may they taste and see that the Lord is good and may they take their rightful place in your Kingdom. We ask that you reveal your truths to them that, as a nation, they will see that now is the time and they will follow you and receive the marvellous blessings of Abraham which you promise to all your people.

Lord, may this nation know that our wonderful Creator God has provided everything they need and that he invites them to 'Come, everything is ready' (Beryl Cosens)

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

Saturday 2nd March

But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold. My feet have closely followed his steps; I have kept to his way without turning aside. Job 23:10-11.

Today, from our church family, we pray for Sky Scotney

Prayer for St. Chad's day

Almighty God, from the first fruits of the English nation who turned to Christ, you called your servant Chad to be an evangelist and bishop of his own people: give us grace so to follow his peaceable nature, humble spirit and prayerful life, that we may truly commend to others the faith which we ourselves profess; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (taken from 'Common Worship – Daily Prayer')

Sunday 3rd March

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8-9.

Today, from our church family, we pray for Jade Scotney

Collect for The Sunday Next before Lent

*Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen*

We also pray today, for all our young people in schools and colleges. We pray for the teachers and lecturers and ask for your blessing. Yesterday we remembered St Chad, who was a great evangelist and we pray that all those young people would also meet a great evangelist who will bring them to a knowledge and love of Christ that will transform their lives and bring them joy.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Monday 4th March

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9.

Today, from our church family, we pray for David Sharpe

Dear Lord, in our reading today you urge us to be courageous. Today we pray for all those who have to be courageous in their line of work. Police, paramedics, lawyers who represent injustice, politicians who receive death threats; there are so many people who are sometimes in danger because they are trying to do their job. Please give them the courage to do what is right. Protect them and help them to feel your love. Help us to support those who give so much to make our society a better place.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Tuesday 5th March

These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Deuteronomy 6:6-7.

Today, from our church family, we pray for Carol Smith

Today we pray for Afghanistan which is 2nd on Open Door's list of places where it is most dangerous to be a Christian. Lord Jesus, thank You that people in Afghanistan are coming to know You despite the extreme persecution they face. Please help believers to shine as witnesses for You in their day-to-day lives. Protect and strengthen those who are facing persecution from their

families and communities, and give wisdom to those who are working to support secret Afghan believers.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Wednesday 6th March Ash Wednesday

LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago. Isaiah 25:1.

Today, from our church family, we pray for Stuart Smith

Collect for Ash Wednesday

*Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, Amen.*

Dear Lord, as we enter the season of Lent, please help us to use this time as a reflection on our relationship with you. Help us to spend time in prayer and think about the wonderful gift you gave us. The gift of your son, Jesus Christ. Thank you for what You did for us. You gave us a bridge to your love, a way of connecting with you and a wonderful saviour to love. Help us to try and understand the enormity of the sacrifice and fully appreciate your love for us.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Thursday 7th March

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Psalm 139:23-24.

Today, from our church family, we pray for Keith Steele

We pray today for our parks and open spaces. So many towns and cities in Britain are richly blessed with open spaces for people to use and Walsall is no exception. Places for walks and picnics and children to play. We have many beautiful parks especially the Arboretum. Thank you, dear Lord. We are so grateful. We also thank you for the dedicated people who work as rangers and attendants and the many volunteers who keep these places free from litter, clean and well maintained. We pray that, even when council funds are low, money will always be found to enable us to enjoy all these areas.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Friday 8th March

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord [Jesus](#) Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4.

Today, from our church family, we pray for Danielle T'arna

Today we pray for all those who are bereaved. Whether it is recent or a long time ago, the loss of someone we love impacts our lives in so many ways. Comfort and care for those suffering from grief and help us to feel your compassion. We thank you for the Bereavement group that meets at St. Martins and ask for you blessing on all who attend. May they all find the comfort and peace that only you can give.

Lord in your Mercy, hear our prayer.

Saturday 9th March

He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ [Jesus](#) before the beginning of time. 2 Timothy 1:9.

Today, from our church family, we pray for Maureen Thacker

Our reading today talks about living a Holy Life. Not an easy thing to do, so please dear Lord, give us the strength, courage and ability to live the best life we can. Where we make mistakes, help us to learn from them. When we are unkind or mean help us to make amends. Help us to always listen to your voice, make the decisions you want us to and live the life you desire for us.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Sunday 10th March

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. 1 Peter 3:15.

Today, from our church family, we pray for Pam Thorley

Collect for the First Sunday of Lent

*Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

We pray today for all our local Christian churches and especially for all those in our cluster. We pray for all the clergy and for all who help in any way to keep the churches running smoothly and make them places of welcome. Please bless all the congregations. May all these churches bring your message of love and peace and salvation to the local community and show God's love in action.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Monday 11th March

Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments. Deuteronomy 7:9

Today, from our church family, we pray for Lilian Turner

Today we celebrate Commonwealth Day; highlighting the work of the fifty-three member countries, united under the banner of this year's theme of a connected commonwealth. We thank God for the unity of these countries and their collective work on trade negotiations to encouraging women's leadership, building the small business sector, supporting youth participation at all levels of society and providing experts to write laws. We pray for the continued progress towards safety, security and equality for all ages, both genders and every religion. We pray for the productive progress of the Commonwealth Strategic Plan, half way through its three year cycle, asking that its implementation be guided with wisdom and expressed with love. We pray for our Commonwealth.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Tuesday 12th March

Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. 2 Peter 1:4

Today, from our church family, we pray for Roger Turner

We lift before you all instances of damaged or broken relationships. We ask for your sustaining comfort where those we work with have failed to meet their responsibilities, when our friends have not noticed or responded to our needs and when families have not understood our wishes. We ask for a restoration of our relationships and to have peace with those we love. Where we have let down our peers, friends or families we ask for forgiveness and the opportunity to make amends. May all of our interactions be a witness to our relationship with you, and our community be built to the glory of God.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Wednesday 13th March

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

Today, from our church family, we pray for Louise Wadley

We remember and pray for the work of One-Walsall, styled as the voice of the voluntary sector of our town, seeking to support all not-for-profit organisations. We ask for your blessing on the efforts of the organisations development workers supporting the fundraising, governance and business planning of our local charities. We ask for the support strategies to be productively guided to support our community this month and in the years to come.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Thursday 14th March

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:5-8

Today, from our church family, we pray for Chris Wall

We pray for Christian outreach in our community. We ask that our Church community be prompted to pray for events such as our monthly prayer walking team, those who volunteer at the local hospital and all who visit care homes and those in need in our community. In the quiet times and opportunities for reflection today, we remember the outreach work of St Martin's, and think about how our decisions and lifestyles can more accurately and effectively show Christian love and be effective tools for demonstrating our relationship with our God.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Friday 15th March

Then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. Acts 4:10

Today, from our church family, we pray for Keith Wall

At the end of this week we pray for the work of the Street Ministry team, in thanks for all involved through donation, prayer and practical support, as well as team members who volunteer each Friday. We pray for the work of each team on the rota throughout every month, that they be safe and their presence be a blessing to all they encounter. We pray for your blessing on the sustenance and conversation that will witness to your name this evening, and every Friday evening.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Saturday 16th March

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Colossians 3:12

Today, from our church family, we pray for Jackie Watt

As we remember our police and all who work to protect law and order, we call to mind our biblical exemplars of justice. We thank you for the obedience of Abraham, the wisdom of Joseph and the guidance of Moses; in their imperfect stories may we find both truth and inspiration for our own struggles. We pray for our local police force in communities across the West Midlands, may they have obedience to law, wisdom in planning and action and be guided by both external rules and their own moral compass. We pray for each individual in our community, that they grow in response to Christian accounts of wisdom, obedience and inspired truth.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Sunday 17th March

A psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Psalm 23:1-3

Today, from our church family, we pray for Wendy Webster

Collect for the Second Sunday of Lent

Almighty God,

by the prayer and discipline of Lent

may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,

and by following in his Way

come to share in his glory;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

As we experience the turmoil of our lives, with the pressures of responsibilities and fears, today we look for opportunities for the peaceful security of the Psalmist. This Sunday, and in the coming days, we ask to walk with our shepherd by the quiet waters, to find refreshment and be guided along the right paths.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Monday 18th March

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

Today, from our church family, we pray for Jane Wharton

We pray in adoration of our God. In the reality of our personal concerns, pressures and worries, we pray in thankfulness for the blessings in our lives. Where justice and righteousness may suggest that humans be punished for their thoughts and actions, we pray with humble gratitude for the forgiveness of the Father, the salvation from the Son and the healing of the Holy Spirit. **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Tuesday 19th March

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

Today, from our church family, we pray for Penny Wheble

Collect for Joseph of Nazareth

God our Father,

*who from the family of your servant David
raised up Joseph the carpenter
to be the guardian of your incarnate Son
and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary:
give us grace to follow him
in faithful obedience to your commands;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, Amen*

As we read St Paul's words of the fruits of the Spirit and focus on the obedient example of Joseph, we focus on our times of joy, achievement, quiet reflection and sorrow, looking to build these into our own opportunities to grow in our relationship with God.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Wednesday 20th March

Like new-born babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. 1 Peter 2:2-3

Today, from our church family, we pray for Peter Wheble

On this International Day of Happiness, we look for opportunities to live out this year's theme of sharing happiness. We thank you for all aspects of our lives which bring us joy and opportunities to delight and share our individual interests, achievements and relationships. We pray with an understanding that to seek happiness as a goal within itself is insubstantial and fruitless, unless joy in relationship with our God and the celebration of the blessings in our lives is purposeful and sustaining. We pray for opportunities to experience and share true happiness borne from closeness to our God.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

Thursday 21st March

"But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit." Jeremiah 17:7-8

Today, from our church family, we pray for Jean Whitehouse

In recognition of our heavenly home and hearing the command to trust in the Lord, we remember all who have felt fear and vulnerability in their worldly home. We pray for those who need the protection or intervention from the police and support services in our community, and those who have had to leave their homes and countries to assure themselves and their family's safety. In addition to our communities across the West Midlands, we also pray for the 65 million refugees around the world. We pray for the work of charities such as World Vision as they support people from countries such as Syria, Afghanistan and South Sudan. We ask for continued practical support for the most vulnerable members of our community, and for the comfort and refuge of God. We pray for the sustenance of the Kingdom of God.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Friday 22nd March

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Ephesians 6:10-11

Today, from our church family, we pray for Joan Whitehouse

Today is World Water Day, a day to raise awareness and inspire action to tackle water and sanitation issues. Its theme this year is "Leaving no-one behind", focussing on the need for adequate water supplies for the poorest and most marginalised. Lord, inspire us to give generously to help the millions around the world who still lack access to safe, clean water and adequate sanitation. We pray for Water Aid, which is working to provide water for health and hygiene for some of the world's poorest people and for Tear Fund, Christian Aid and other agencies who support them. May we appreciate the luxury of our water supply and use it sensibly.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Saturday 23rd March

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him. James 1:12

Today, from our church family, we pray for Ken Whitehouse

Today our prayer for our town of Walsall is for all its Christian churches and also for those of other faiths and none. Lord you made this diverse world, and while we hope for all to come to you in faith, we pray for those who have different religious beliefs, for tolerance, dialogue and understanding with one another and for groups to work together for the good of the people in our town. We pray that we will all be united against the extremism of intolerance and hate which sometimes masquerades as religious belief. We bring before you Lord, all those who have no faith, who mistrust religion for a variety of reasons but who may wonder about the emptiness in their lives. We pray that you will guide us to reach out when appropriate as individuals and as a church to support those who wish to explore Christianity further.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Sunday 24th March

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

Today, from our church family, we pray for Jennifer Whitford

Collect for the Third Sunday of Lent

*Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Yesterday was the second anniversary of the licensing of our Vicar Jenny at St Martin's by Michael, Bishop of Lichfield. Lord, as we pray for her and her family, we give thanks that you have called

Jenny to minister to us and for the help and support she has already given us and look forward to our time ahead with her and the further development in the life of our church.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Monday 25th March

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

Today, from our church family, we pray for Carl Whitford

Collect for The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

*We beseech you, O Lord,
pour your grace into our hearts,
that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ by
the message of an angel,
so by his cross and passion
we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen*

Last month Major Anne Finch spoke to us of the Salvation Army's work to rescue the victims of human trafficking and modern slavery. Loving Lord, today we pray for all those who are being controlled and held in this way. Often their condition is unnoticed and we pray for the Salvation Army's work to help them and for the defeat of those who prey on and exploit them.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Tuesday 26th March

For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, Philippians 1:29

Today, from our church family, we pray for Garry Wright

In a recent speech Her Majesty the Queen commended people to speak well of one another and, respecting different points of view, come together to seek out the common ground; and to never lose sight of the bigger picture. Loving Father, in these last few days before Brexit we pray that we all heed these words and despite our differences come together as a country, being kind and supportive of one another and working for the best way forward.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Wednesday 27th March

My salvation and my honour depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge. Psalm 62:7

Today, from our church family, we pray for Jo Wright

Our prayer for our town focuses today on the homeless and the Glebe Centre. We pray for the work of those based at the Glebe centre seeking to help and support the homeless and those struggling with alcohol and drug abuse. Compassionate Lord, we pray for all those using these services and the paid employees and volunteers running them and give thanks for the provision of warm meals and showers. We pray that those using the services provided by centre will be able to move forward with their lives towards a better future. We also pray that people will continue giving clothing, food and financial donations to support any ongoing work. Now that the provision of a winter shelter for the homeless has ended, we pray that more people have been found permanent accommodation and for ongoing support for them and those who still face sleeping outside.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Thursday 28th March

For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.

1 Timothy 2:5-6

Today, from our church family, we pray for Isabelle Wright

Heavenly Father, we pray for Sustain Micro Enterprise, St Martins charity for this month, as they work to empower vulnerable women in Uganda to develop and sustain small businesses in order to have an income and be in position to provide for the basic needs of their children. We pray for the continued development of this organisation in advising on microfinance and giving business training, and vocational skills support and for it to be successful in funding applications to build a Women's Centre, where the women and their families can access medical and health needs plus training and many more resources. We also pray for funds to become available to buy a motor bike so staff can travel to the women's villages without having to hire transport each trip.

We give thanks for the work of our link Carole Gregory in raising funds, visiting and supporting them for many years. We pray for all the Ugandan women and families that have been helped to bring themselves out of severe poverty and pray that they will continue to prosper and also be a support to others.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Friday 29th March

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

Today, from our church family, we pray for Natasha Aziz

At the time of writing, today is the day of BREXIT when we cease to be members of the European Union. Lord, we pray that we have reached a compromise solution with our parliament and the EU, and that now we can focus on building bridges in the UK and new relationships with our European neighbours and around the world. Should the date have been delayed, then we pray for a speedy democratic solution, so that our government and parliament can then focus on other important national issues and our businesses can plan for the future.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Saturday 30th March

He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.

Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. Isaiah 53:3-4

Today, from our church family, we pray for Olivia Wright

Our connection to Earth and nature is undeniable: *our planet's gain is everyone's gain*. Tonight at 8.30 pm is Earth Hour's 49th Anniversary when they hope that a billion people worldwide will turn off their lights off for one hour to show that they care about the implications of climate change. Heavenly Father, who made this wonderful world for us and sent your Son to live among us and be our Saviour, help and guide us to use its resources in ways that will prevent irreparable harm to its climate, and resources.

Tomorrow we come to church an hour earlier as British Summer Time begins. As we see signs of the end of winter and we look forward to the spring, to sunshine and the new growth of leaves and flowers, we know we are fortunate that our temperate climate gives us adequate rainfall as well as sunshine to enable our crops to grow. Loving Lord, we pray for those in countries beset by floods or drought, who starve if crops fail.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Sunday 31st March

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities;

the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way;

and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:5-6

Today, from our church family, we pray for Sophia Wright

Collect for Mothering Sunday

*God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to
heal;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen*

Many of us will spend time with our families today and think about the happy times we spend or have spent with our mothers. We thank you Lord, for the love given by mothers to their children and for the hard work and sacrifice made by many parents. We pray for families with young children; for those in our world surrounded by fighting and war, for those who are hungry or trying to survive in dire conditions, for children who have been orphaned due to mankind's violence or national disasters. We pray for families in our own nation trying to cope with unemployment and financial difficulties and for mothers who have to bring up their children alone and finally for support and vigilance for the children whose parents do not care properly for them.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

March Services

Services for March to be confirmed.

Sunday	3rd March	Sunday before Lent
10.00am	Holy Communion	Jenny Mayo-Lythall
6.30pm	Prayer and Praise	Penny Wheble
Wednesday	6th March	Ash Wednesday
7.30pm	Holy Communion + Ashing	Jenny Mayo-Lythall
Thursday	7th March	
9.30am	Holy Communion	Keith Brown
Sunday	10th March	Lent 1
10.00am	Holy Communion	Margaret Carter
Thursday	14th March	
9.30am	Holy Communion	Chris Rowe
Sunday	17th March	Lent 2
10.00am	Holy Communion	Liz Askey
4.00pm	Messy Church	
Thursday	21st March	
9.30am	Morning Worship	Penny Wheble
Sunday	24th March	Lent 3
10.00am	Holy Communion	Penny Wheble
Thursday	28th March	
9.30am	Holy Communion	Jenny Mayo-Lythall
Sunday	31st March	Mothering Sunday
10.00am	All age service	
3.30pm	BCP Holy Communion	Jenny Mayo-Lythall