

# St Martin's Church



# REJOICE!

## *April 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.**

## **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good. Psalm14:1

Today, from our church family, we pray for Xiaoqing Zheng

Dear Lord, many people do not believe in you. Not, "vile" people. Just ordinary people, who have not yet encountered the Saviour in their lives. How can we help them to understand that God loves us all, whether we believe or not? Help us to bring to mind a friend, who does not know or have God in their lives. Help us to show them the joy and peace that can only come from you dear Father. Please open up their hearts and enable them to let you in.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

Now Jesus was going up to Jerusalem. On the way, he took the Twelve aside and said to them, "*We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!*" Matthew 20: 17-19.

Today, from our church family, we pray for Janet Allchurch.

As this Diary was being completed Cyclone Idai hit the coast of Africa with devastating results especially in Mozambique and also Zimbabwe and Malawi. Hundreds are dead and many more are missing and with large areas underwater and communities destroyed, thousands are homeless. Compassionate Father, we pray for the people affected as they struggle to cope in terrible conditions and undertake the task of burying the dead and searching for loved ones. They desperately need help, especially food, shelter and medical support. We pray for the aid agencies already on the ground and working there including Oxfam, The Red Cross, Save the Children, Unicef, and Christian Aid and pray that donations will help this work and we also give thanks that the UK's has pledged £6million in humanitarian aid.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

### **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

*Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2.*

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

Today we pray for the country of Bulgaria. We give thanks that recently, the Barnabas fund has announced that the Bulgarian government has decided not to pass into law, amendments to the Law on Religious Communities. These amendments would have severely restricted religious freedom for Christians, including evangelism and state control of foreign donations. We praise You dear Lord, for answered prayers and pray that Bulgaria will continue to enable Christians to worship as You would wish.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April**

*In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace. Ephesians 1:7.*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Liz Askey

Father God, we pray for Your word to be heard more on our televisions, radios and in films. So often Christians are portrayed in a negative light. Please protect those Christians working in the media, who wish to show Your love, Your word and Your presence in a positive way. Help them to touch people's lives by making it clear what believing in Jesus actually means. Give courage, wisdom and protection to those making decisions about the content of the programmes we see and hear.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

*For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.*

*2 Corinthians 5:14-15.*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Sue Ball

Today we think about those who volunteer to help in city centres at weekends, when people are out drinking and having a good time and sometimes things go wrong. In many places, including Walsall, Street Pastors work with the police to patrol the streets and help with care and advice. We pray for all those who volunteer in this way; giving up their evenings to support the community. Sometimes medical help is needed, sometimes just a listening ear and sometimes flip flops are the answer for ladies suffering in their high heels. We also pray for those in the Street Ministry who provide hot drinks, pot noodles and a friendly ear at St Paul's and for those who they encounter. Dear Lord, enable the Street Pastors and Street Ministry to show your love in action and give them opportunities to talk about our wonderful Father God.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

*This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.*  
*1 John 3:16.*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Ron Barker

Dear Lord, last year on this day, the prayer diary entry was a prayer for the homeless in Walsall and for the night shelter. This year the night shelter has been running again, closing at the end of March. We thank you Lord, for the decisions made by Walsall Council which have enabled this to happen. Walsall has been in the news as a place where help given to the homeless has been successful. The complex problem of rough sleepers is not easy to solve. We pray for all those affected by drink, drugs, mental disorders and family

problems. Bring your healing presence to all those whose lives are troubled and difficult. We pray for the workers, volunteer and paid, and ask for compassion and wisdom in their dealings with those whom society would rather forget.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

*I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20.*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Philip Barnes

#### Collect for 5th Sunday of Lent

*Most merciful God,*

*who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world:*

*grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross*

*we may triumph in the power of his victory;*

*through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Today is our Annual Church Meeting. We give thanks, dear Lord for all those who work so hard to give each and every person who comes to a service in St. Martin's, a chance to worship and praise You in a meaningful way. We pray for all those elected or re-elected today, and we pray that in the coming year, we will serve You faithfully and work together to spread the gospel throughout our community.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

### **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

*For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Romans 5:10.*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Heather Barnes

Father God, when we were estranged from you, through sin and evil, you sent your son so that we could be reconciled to You. We are your children; Jesus even called us friends. No longer enemies but reconciled. Help us Father, to be reconciled to those we are estranged from. Help our nations to be reconciled to those who are regarded as enemies. Help us dear Lord, to be forgiving and loving in all our relationships, and to understand, not to judge.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April**

*The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. Hebrews 1:3.*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Lesley Bates

In our prayers today, we remember a great man; Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who died this day in 1945. He was a German pastor, theologian and a founding member of the confessing church. He saw the evil of Nazism and fought against it, until he was executed in a concentration camp. He believed implicitly in the power of prayer so today we pray for all prisoners of conscience and all those who have the courage to fight against evil.

*"O Holy Spirit,  
Give me faith that will protect me  
from despair, from passions, and from vice;  
Give me such love for God and men  
as will blot out all hatred and bitterness;  
Give me the hope that will deliver me  
from fear and faint-heartedness."* (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April**

*You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous*

*person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:6-8.*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Gill Beasley

We pray for our local community and for all those from St Martins involved in the important work of outreach to that community. Today they are giving out little chicks to people shopping in Park Hall and talking about Easter. We pray for wisdom and many opportunities to explain Your love for us, dear Lord. Help all those with whom they make contact hear Your word and feel Your presence and joy in their lives. Protect and guide the Outreach group as they follow Your commands to go out and spread the gospel.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

### **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April**

*“He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” 1 Peter 2:24*

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

We pray in wonder at the created world, the beauty which is blooming into Spring around us. Our origin story in Genesis reminds us that we were made with the special relationship walking in the Garden with our God, and today we see our God and can grow closer to him in our enjoyment of the natural world. We thank God for the gifts of creativity we are blessed with as individuals and a community. Whatever our talents may be, from baking and flower arranging to music and carpentry, may they draw us closer to our creator God. In particular we lift before you the performance of “The Narrow Road” from the visiting Riding Lights Company tonight at St Martin’s; praying for both performers and performance as well as all who watch this Passion performance.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**



## **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

*Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. Luke 9:23-24*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Gloria Bird

As our Christian community – local, national and international, prepares for the mix of celebrations of Holy Week, we remember and pray for Church leaders. We pray for the leadership of Church of England, remembering the Queen as the Supreme Governor and the senior clerics of Canterbury and York through the leadership into each of Christian communities. In our parish of St Martin's we praise and pray for our Jenny serving as our Vicar and our leadership team including readers, administrator and wardens. May the Church be maintained as the bride of Christ and grow as a community showing the righteousness of the Father, love of the Son and generosity of the Spirit. As we thank God and pray for our Christian family, today we ask how we could become more involved or serve our community in the coming year.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April**

*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. Romans 3:23-24*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Marika Boateng

Our prayer today is for "The Big Feed", our charity for this month, whose representative John Hopcroft is coming to talk to us tomorrow. We give thanks for those in our church and other churches who each cook a meal for 8 people once a month and freeze it, so that it can be heated and served to the homeless on a Sunday at Midland Road Church. We pray for the homeless, those who eat these meals and all whose situation has become worse in recent months and pray for the further development of ways to

house rough sleepers and help those facing homelessness and those in dire need.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

*The Resurrection of Christ. Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. 1 Corinthians 15:1*

Today from our church family we pray Robert Boateng

### Collect for Palm Sunday

*True and humble king,  
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:  
grant us the faith to know you and love you,  
that we may be found beside you  
on the way of the cross,  
which is the path of glory. Amen*

We welcome you Lord Jesus, as our almighty Messiah, our chosen and anointed one. As we remember your entry into the city of Jerusalem, we thank and praise you for your entrance and presence in our lives. May we take opportunities to make our stand on the Gospel of Christ, finding ways to preach this sacrificial message through words and actions within our communities.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April**

*This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honour, then honour. Romans 13:6-7*

Today, from our church family, we pray Charles Boateng Jnr.

Money is reward for work and symbolic of the value we place on goods and services. We pray for the ethical use of money in our homes, our Church and communities as well as our nation and world. Where individuals, families and organisations feel justly rewarded for their efforts, may we celebrate this bounty with them. Where work is hard and earning or securing a living wage difficult, may we support any in this struggle and lend our voices for justice. As Paul has highlighted Jesus' words to the people of Rome, suggesting the justice of paying what is owed, may we be humbled in the knowledge that Jesus has paid what is owed by us. As we remember this sacrifice in our place this week, renew our prayerful work in caring for any in need. We celebrate the work of the Big Feed, local food banks and all working to support those in economic and social need. Today we remember organisations and initiatives working to support those in need, ask for your blessing on all who struggle to support themselves and any they care for, and your wisdom in how to spend our own relative wealth.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April**

*Love Fulfils the Law. Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. Romans 13:8*

Today, from our church family, we pray Jacob Boateng

Loving Lord, today we pray for all those suffering from an "invisible" illness. Some people suffer dreadfully but their suffering is not seen by everyone else. It might be mental distress or constant pain, difficulties in completing everyday tasks, poor hearing or eyesight. Bring your healing touch to people who do not look ill, but really are. Give all of us compassion and understanding and help us not to judge anyone who is using facilities for the disabled but does not look disabled. We pray for the science and technology to make people's lives better and help them in their pain.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April**

*Christ Crucified Is God's Power and Wisdom. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Catherine Boden

As we prepare spiritually, mentally and physically for the commemoration of the culmination of Holy Week, we reflect on what we may need to ask for forgiveness and strength for, to be able to sit at the table with our Lord in his final meal, and to walk to the foot of the cross for his final hours. For the times when we have not fulfilled our God given promise and potential because of fear, apathy or mistaken priorities, we repent. For the times when we have thought, said or done something which did not demonstrate and share the love of our God, we repent. For the times where we have not taken the time get to know our God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we repent.

It was one of Jesus' friends who betrayed him, who sat by him, learnt from him, ate with him. We pray for your strength to walk faithfully with Jesus, though the road may be unsteady and we may fear the unknown, may we mirror the faithfulness of our Lord. Though we may become unsure, stumble and lost, may we remember our faith in the one who is steady and sure in his commitment to us.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April**

*If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. Romans 10:9-10*

Today, from our church family, we pray Chris Boden

Collect for Maundy Thursday

*God our Father,*

*your Son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end*

*and drank the cup prepared for him:*

*may we who share his table  
watch with him through the night of suffering  
and be faithful. Amen*

As the Christian faith unites in preparation to remember the sacrifice of Jesus, the family at St Martin's meets this evening to share our Agape meal. As we eat and drink together, may we be reminded of the final Passover meal Jesus shared with his followers and value our freedom hard won through Jesus' struggle. For our Christian brothers and sisters who cannot share today in our meal we unite with them in prayer, and ask for our renewed ability to demonstrate and share Christ's love.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

### **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

*But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*

Today, from our church family, we pray Saskia Boden

### Collect for Good Friday

*Almighty Father,  
look with mercy on this your family  
for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed  
and given up into the hands of sinners  
and to suffer death upon the cross;  
who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen*

In the darkness of the cross, may we bring our fears, our wrongdoings and our inadequacies. In this prayer time, may we remember the sin which held Jesus to the cross, the forgiveness cried from it and the necessary sacrifice completed through it. As his broken body is quickly hidden in a borrowed tomb, may we

remember the image and reality of the pain and power of this act of love. May we thank Jesus for the cross.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

### **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April**

*"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"  
The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1  
Corinthians 15:55-57*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Aria Boden

### Collect for Easter Eve

*In the depths of our isolation  
we cry to you, Lord God:  
give light to our darkness  
and bring us out of the prison of our despair;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

In our spiritual preparation to meet our risen God, we remember the practical, worldly organisation of our Council, We remember all elements from health, transport and environmental protection to care homes, education and housing; asking for wisdom in how money is spent, communication shared and organisation structured. We thank you for each individual utility worker, for their effort and talent which each one of us benefits from. May your hand be over the filling of all vacancies, any business or organisational disagreements and investments in the future of our wider community.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

### **Easter Day Sunday 21st April**

*"I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one." John 10:28-30*

John 10:28-30

Today, from our church family, we pray for Helen Bodley

## Collect for Easter Day

*God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell:  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned  
and the way to life stands open  
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen*

*Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!*

Lord Jesus, as we celebrate your glorious Resurrection at our Sunrise Service, and the 8am and 10am Communions, may we be inspired by your sacrifice and love for us to make a new beginning in our lives, striving to spread your word and grow your kingdom.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer**

## **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

*“For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.” Romans 1:20*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Pauline Bolus

Today on the 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death is the first “Stephen Lawrence Day”. Loving Lord, as we think about him and all young people who have had their lives cut short by stabbing and violence we pray for the defeat of attacks motivated by racism, gang loyalty, greed, argument, post code, or for even “being different”. We seem to be suffering more knife crime than ever and we pray for ways to prevent this by parental influence, education, celebrities who young people admire and by detection of weapons on the street. We face a difficult task ahead to defeat ignorance, cruelty and the influence of violence portrayed in games and films and pray for your guidance Lord.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer**

## **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

*"It is written: "As surely as I live," says the Lord, "every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.""* Romans 14:11

Today, from our church family, we pray for Sheila Box

### Collect for St George's Day

*God of hosts, who so kindled the flame of love in the heart of your servant George that he bore witness to the risen Lord by his life and by his death: give us the same faith and power of love that we who rejoice in his triumphs may come to share with him the fullness of the 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 forever. Amen*

On this St George's day we pray for those who govern our nation and the members of our judiciary who interpret our laws. Give wisdom to those who make decisions on our behalf so that all their implications are understood.

As we think about St George who was a Roman soldier, we pray for those in our armed forces, who we send to fight and serve peacekeeping roles on our behalf, that we will support them adequately both during conflict and later if they suffer physical or psychological harm.

May we be proud of the positive, past achievements of our country as well as trying to right any past wrongs and endeavour to live up to the ideals of democracy, freedom and the support of those in need.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer**

## **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April**

*"For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect."* 1 Peter 1:18-19

Today, from our church family, we pray for Clare Box

*"Jesus our guide,*



*Help us to see through your eyes,  
beneath the surface, to the heart of things.  
Cut through our excuses and justifications  
when we are blind to your love.  
Give us grace to be transformed into your likeness,  
day by day,  
As we make our lifetime's journey of small steps. Amen"*  
(Community of St Chad)  
**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer**

### **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April**

*"To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the  
glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of  
glory.  
He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with  
all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ."  
Colossians 1:27-28*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Julie Bradshaw

### Collect for St Mark

*Almighty God, who enlightened your holy Church through the  
inspired witness of your evangelist Saint Mark: grant that we, being  
firmly grounded in the truth of the gospel, may be faithful to its  
teaching both in word and deed; 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 forever.*

After the appalling massacre in New Zealand last month, killing 50 Muslims at worship, we pray for those who mourn and those suffering from their injuries. We pray for the victims of hate crime and extremism throughout the world and for respect for all whatever their sect, creed, faith, race or gender. Loving Lord, you made this diverse world and we pray for the means to detect and defeat the growth of extremist groups and those who encourage acts of violence and murder. Lord, help us to reach out and change the hearts and minds of all those who are filled with hate or are reluctant to accept those different from themselves.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer**

## **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

*“Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.”*

*Hebrews 7:25*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Barbara Brearley

We pray for the victims of child grooming and sexual exploitation. With recent and past years' evidence of abuse by individuals, gangs and people in authority, and also cases of abuse in the home, we pray that society as a whole will be much more vigilant in listening to and protecting children, especially those who are vulnerable or in the care of local authorities. Compassionate Father, comfort and support those whose lives have been blighted by abuse and help them move towards finding a brighter future. We pray for social workers, police and medical personnel and teachers, and all who are in the position to detect abuse, that they will be given the necessary time and training to be able to cope with this serious and challenging responsibility

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer**

## **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April**

*“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” Luke 19:10*

Today, we pray for Jackie Brown and her new church family

Our Saturday prayer this week is for the hospitals and hospices in our area. Be with all those who work in them and all those in their care. We pray for repair and healing where possible and the relief of pain and discomfort.

*“Lord, let your light shine throughout our hospitals and hospices as the work of healing and caring goes on day by day. May the rhythm and routine beat with the heartbeat of compassion and the pulse of joy and love. Lord may your power and peace flow through every corridor, window and door. God of healing and wholeness we bring the service and work there with its joys and trials and we lay them at your feet.” (adapted from NHS prayer walk prayers)*

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer**

## **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

*“In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!” Philippians 2:5-8*

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

### Collect for the Second Sunday of Easter

*Risen Christ,*

*for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:  
open the doors of our hearts,  
that we may seek the good of others  
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,  
to the praise of God the Father. Amen*

We pray for the children at St Martin’s and our church’s ministry to them. For those who attend our Sunday groups and Messy church activities. Lord Jesus, we give thanks for the time and effort put into the inspiring and imaginative work by Trish, our Children’s and families worker, and all those who help in these groups and ask you to guide them and all of us in the way forward in involving more families and children in the life of our church.

*“Lord God, who through the small offerings of one boy was able to feed 5,000, we ask that we may also love and develop the children in our congregations.*

*Lord we thank you for the children in our churches.*

*Lord you love them for who they are*

*Thank you for their gifts, their personalities and for their sense of fun  
May they have the opportunity to grow into the people you created them to be.” (Caitlin Burbridge for the Children’s Society)*

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer**

## **Monday 29th April**

*"I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth." Job 19:25*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Sylvie Brown

Walsall children go back to school today after their Easter holiday. We pray that they and their teachers are refreshed and ready for the work of the term ahead. Those in year 11 and Sixth form will be taking GCSE and A level exams soon and we pray for them as they face a period of revision and the challenges of examination papers. Help them Lord as they strive to concentrate amid the many distractions around them.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer**

## **Tuesday 30th April**

*"Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ." Ephesians 4:15*

Today, from our church family, we pray for Margaret Budding

With these words of Saint Paul's in mind, we pray for our spiritual growth, that we will strive to follow our Lord Jesus' words and keep them in our hearts and minds each day. We pray for your guidance Lord when we encounter difficult situations at home or at work and a determination to always follow what is right in your sight. Lord, we all prefer the comfort and security of familiar situations, help us all in this Eastertide to welcome new challenges and new beginnings.

*"Lord God in whom we live and move and have our being; Open our eyes so we may see your presence always about us. Draw our hearts to You with the power of Your love." (B.F. Westcott)*

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer**

Left blank for your own prayers





## Services for April to be confirmed.

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>4th April</b>	
9.30am	Holy Communion	Chris Rowe
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>7th April</b>	<b>Passion Sunday</b>
10.00am	Holy Communion	Jenny Mayo
	Followed by APCM	
6.30pm	Prayer and Praise	Chris Rowe
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>11th April</b>	
9.30am	Holy Communion	John Proctor
7:30pm	Riding Lights - The Narrow Road	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>14th April</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
10.00am	All Age	Jenny Mayo
		Penny Wheble
3.30pm	BCP Holy Communion	Jenny Mayo
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>18th April</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>
9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Jenny Mayo
7:00pm	Agape Meal with Communion	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>19th April</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>
10:00am	All Age	Margaret Carter
	Hot Cross Bun Service	Jenny Mayo
2:00pm	Hour at the Cross	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>21st April</b>	<b>Easter Day</b>
6:00am	Sunrise Service	Jenny Mayo
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Jenny Mayo
10.00am	Holy Communion	Jenny Mayo
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>25th April</b>	
9.30am	Morning Worship	Penny Wheble
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>28th April</b>	<b>Easter 1</b>
10.00am	Holy Communion	Jeremy Bakewell