

inspire

MAY 2018

YOUR LIFE AT ST CHAD'S CHURCH

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DAILY PRAYER
1 April - 5 May 2018



Thy Kingdom Come

Steve writes



This is a great initiative by our Archbishops for the Church of England to come together and pray for our nation and for the Church's witness across the land. The period between Ascension Day (10th May) and Pentecost Sunday (20th May) is 11 days. The call is to pray and witness together across the land.

Archbishop Justin says: 'I cannot remember in my life anything that I've been involved in where I have sensed so clearly the work of the Spirit.'

St Chads will be having a prayer walk around our parish boundaries on Saturday 26th May (just after this period). However, each day during the 10 days we will be praying as a church for our parish and our nation.

Isaiah 64:1 says:

Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence—

Let's make this our prayer and join with Jesus by saying... 'Thy Kingdom Come'

A Poem – Road to Emmaus

Judy Adshead

The two were walking along the road, dejected and so cast down. Grief and bewilderment filled their hearts, as they thought of events in the town For the one they loved had been tortured, ridiculed, mocked and despised.

And they'd thought him the one who'd been promised, to bring freedom to their lives.

A stranger suddenly joined them. They hadn't seen him draw near. He asked the cause of their sadness, having caught sight of a tear. They told him of hopes that were shattered, of dreams that were unfulfilled, When the one they loved, and Yes, worshipped! He'd been hung on a cross –and killed. The stranger first gently rebuked them, and then he began to explain,

That the prophets foretold a Messiah who would have to endure such pain. The two felt their hearts burn within them, as he made the Scriptures so clear, But the teaching couldn't continue, as the destination was near. They invited him in for supper, and asked him to say the grace,

In that moment their eyes were opened, and saw Jesus's beloved face! Immediately he vanished, disappeared from their sight!

So leaving their meal uneaten, they set off into the night... Back to tell the disciples, that the One they loved was not dead! But that he'd been revealed to them, as he broke the bread.

As they marvelled and wondered, Jesus himself appeared, But still not really believing, they were filled with fear. He heard his familiar greeting, "Peace, don't be afraid",

"It really is me, I assure you. Don't doubt, I'm no ghost!" he said. He showed them his hands with the nail wounds, asked them to touch and feel, And he ate some cooked fish before them, to prove that his body was real. Again he explained the Scriptures, how everything pointed to him, How the Father had purposed to crush him, to make him an offering for sin. But Jesus had willingly suffered, though He was God's own Son, That the message of God's forgiveness might be taken to everyone.

Sunday 29 April

🕊️ **Barnabas Fund** supports local churches in places where Christians suffer persecution or discrimination because of their faith in Jesus Christ. The Fund provides immediate material help where needed, training and equipment allowing Christian communities to be self-sufficient, and training and support for church pastors in hard places. Pray for Christians in Pakistan who need help in all these ways. † Pray for Steve and Jo, who are now on the second leg of their time away. Give thanks for the time they spent with Bob and Debbie Adhikary in Nepal. Pray that their ministry and testimony in Nepal will continue to be an encouragement to the Christians there. Pray for their teaching ministry for church leaders in the Ukraine

Monday 30 April

🕊️ Pray for God's protection for Christians in Egypt. Although they have now had some support from President Sisi, many have been killed or terrorised by IS and other Islamist groups. † Give thanks and pray for those who staff the Church Office - they have extra work to do whilst Steve is away. 🌿 Pray that Cheshire East, Handforth Parish Councillors and Developers may work together, so that good use can be made of the site of the eyesore of Cypress House.
Hannah & Charlotte Burmester Rossenclough Road

Tuesday 1 May

🕊️ Christian girls have been a particular target of *Boko Haram* in Nigeria. Pray for the release of girls who have been abducted and for government forces to protect Christian communities. † Pray for our Wardens, Steve and Dave, as they carry additional responsibilities whilst Steve is away. 🌿 Pray for the Governors and staff of Styal Prison. Give thanks for them and the volunteers who have to deal with many difficult situations and yet try to bring help and hope for a new beginning to prisoners.

Wednesday 2 May

🕊️ Give thanks for the ministry of St Francis House, Clare's (Liverpool) and other Children's Hospices. Pray for staff and volunteers in the love they show to the children and support given to families. † Pray for John, Ian and Jim in their preaching and leading whilst Steve is away. 🌿 Give thanks and pray for the volunteers who help with the RVS Lunch Club in Honford Hall, the shop in Macclesfield Hospital and other services.

Jean Butterworth

Residents of Sgars Road

Thursday 3 May

🕊️ After the resignations of Presidents Mugabe in Zimbabwe and Zuma in South Africa, pray for the new political leaders and the Churches of both countries as they work for the healing of divisions and the restoration of righteousness and justice. † Give thanks that those who go to Eden Mansion to lead Services are welcomed. Pray that residents and staff will know of Jesus' love for them. 🌿 Pray that the many who use the Betting Shops in Handforth, may be kept from addiction.

Malcolm, Audrey & Rebecca Calvert School Road

Friday 4 May

🕊️ **World Press Day** Give thanks for Press Freedom in Britain, pray that journalists will use their freedom responsibly. Pray for the many journalists imprisoned in Turkey, Russia and elsewhere because they have tried to report truthfully. † Give thanks for our attractive church grounds. Give thanks and pray for the gardeners. 🌿 Give thanks and pray for Street Pastors who are ready to help clubbers every weekend in Manchester and other town centres.

Jon & Anne Camm Residents of Sandiway Road

Saturday 5 May

🕊️ Tomorrow in Coventry Cathedral, **Tearfund** celebrate their Jubilee. Join with them in giving thanks for all that has been achieved. But the needs and challenges are still huge; pray for their on-going work. † Pray for the fellowship at Christ Church Colshaw, particularly those with major health problems. 🌿 Why are there so many 'high end' car showrooms in Handforth? Give thanks for the benefits that car use brings but pray that we will be kept from making cars our idols.

May Carpenter

Residents of Sealand Way

Sunday 6 May

☺ Jane is a partner with WEC International, a mission agency with 1800 workers in 90 countries. Although based in Dawlish the focus of Jane's ministry is with Muslim people, particularly the *Fulani* peoples of West Africa about whom she prepares regular prayer updates. Pray for her in this and in the publishing of a Gospel *Fula* paper, *Booyataa*. In Dawlish she is involved in her local church and in befriending Syrian asylum seeking families. † Give thanks for Steve and Jo's safe return. Pray for them as they resume 'normal' life and for ways in which we can all benefit from their experiences. 🌿 Pray for the Lord to be in any contacts we have with people of the Muslim faith and the South Manchester Mosque in our parish.

Sue Clarke-Berry & Alan Berry

Residents of Sefton Drive

Monday 7 May

☺ Pray for Jane's contact with one Syrian family with a new baby who was an answer to prayer. † Pray for church members who live in apartment blocks in Handforth, that they can build up good friendships with other residents. 🌿 Pray for those who live in apartment blocks but are effectively prisoners, that they will find ways to break out from their isolation.

Mary Charnley Residents of Shellbrook Grove

Thursday 10 May

☺ **Ascension Day - Thy Kingdom Come** is now a world-wide prayer movement covering the days to Pentecost. Pray that Chester Diocesan events particularly for young people, will challenge and encourage many in prayer. † Lord, give us a heart and vision to pray that we might see 'Thy Kingdom Come' in Handforth. 🌿 Give thanks and pray for the The Hawthorns, the Staff there and the residents and families they are able to support.

June Cottam

Residents of Somerford Way

Tuesday 8 May

☺ Pray for Jill Elston, who following her placement with us, is at an Advisory Panel meeting this week testing her call to ordination. † Pray for this evenings PCC meeting, that new members will feel at home, and for the choice of members for sub-committees. 🌿 Give thanks for the work Handforth Parish Council have done to brighten up our village. Pray that we might be a community which takes pride in our care for one another.

Margaret Collins Residents of Shrigley Close

Friday 11 May ☺ Thy Kingdom Come - Pray that the Cheadle Deanery walk today will draw the parishes in our Deanery together as we pray and work for God's Kingdom to come in our midst. † Pray for Mandy and her helpers at Aroma Cafe today; for a good interaction with the knitting group and all customers. 🌿 Give thanks for the many benefits which internet communication brings but pray for effective policing of cybercrime.

Beryl Cottom

Residents of Snapebrook Grove

Wednesday 9 May

☺ Pray that as Jane has opportunity to join in WEC Prayer Days and other events she will know that she is not alone in her work but part of a wider fellowship. † Give thanks that through our prayers, individually and when together, we help each other to grow as the Body of Christ in Handforth. 🌿 Pray for those who use our local Betting Shops, that they will be kept from addiction. Pray for tighter control of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals.

Nancy Connolly Residents of Siddington Road

Saturday 12 May

☺ Pray for **Church Society** which has its AGM today. **CS** has responsibility for appointments to many parishes, including Cheadle, and also helps clergy and parishes to maintain clear biblical teaching. † Give thanks for the start of Sunday afternoon Youth Group. Pray for more young people to come and for the leaders. 🌿 Pray that listeners and viewers may be ready to hold broadcasters to account; praising that which is good but protesting against all that is offensive.

Nisrene Cunningham Residents of South Acre Drive

Sunday 13 May

☉ **Life below Water** (SD Goal 14) For many Island nations rising sea levels are a dangerous reality including Chester's partner diocese of the Solomon Islands. Pray for an increasing awareness that others are paying a heavy price for our (lack of) action on Climate Change and that Britain and other developed countries will provide help towards adaptation and mitigation. (Report from the Diocese of Polynesia). † Pray that as Paul Moores of the **Leprosy Mission** visits us today we may be both encouraged by their work and challenged in our response. ✨ **Christian Aid Week** Pray that the publicity for this week may rouse awareness of the plight of refugees, of the many good things we take for granted and a willingness to give in response to the appeal.

Carol Cutts

Residents of Southfield Close

Monday 14 May

☉ Most media attention focuses on current disasters but Christian Aid's appeal highlights on-going needs from earlier disasters such as the 2016 hurricane in Haiti. Pray for Aid agencies' long term disaster mitigation programmes. † Pray for our Pastoral Care Team as they try to ensure that no one is forgotten. ✨ Bereavement is not a short term experience. May our community be one which gives on-going support and sympathy to those missing loved ones.

Jose Daniels

Residents of Spath Lane

Tuesday 15 May ☉ The Muslim fasting month, Ramadan, begins today. Give thanks that in recent years prayer over the time of Ramadan has also been a time when many Muslims have begun to follow Isa, the Messiah. † May the 'Thirty Days of Prayer' guide help us to be part of a worldwide wave of prayer. ✨ Give thanks and pray for the work of Macmillan Nurses and Marie Curie in the support they give to those affected by cancer and terminal illness.

Allan & Anne Dawson *Residents of Spinney Close*

Wednesday 16 May

☉ Pray that Church Warden and Sidespeople will be encouraged and challenged by this evening's Licencing Service at All Hallows, Cheadle - The Archdeacon's Visitation. † Pray for the members of Christ Church, Colshaw, for the children's regular Wednesday Club and continuing links with the community. ✨ Give thanks for the Hope Centre on Colshaw and pray that those who help there will see those who come achieve a sustainable lifestyle.

Tony Dawson

Residents of Stanley Park Grange

Thursday 17 May

☉ Pray for the churches and congregations in Stockport Deanery. Many of the churches, including St Mary's in the Market Place, are without Vicars at present. Pray for the right appointments. † Give thanks and pray for the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows at St Chad's and Colshaw; for the girls and their leaders. ✨ Pray for the work of the Seashell Trust; for the staff and the Trustees who are responsible for a planned relocation which will make better provision for those in their care.

Malcolm & Julia Dean

Residents of Stanley Road

Friday 18 May

☉ Give thanks that we have permission to collect for Christian aid outside Tesco M & S tomorrow. Pray that all time slots will be covered and for a good response from shoppers. † St Chad's Parish includes Colshaw estate and all houses on our side of Stanneylands Road. May we know how to reach out to those living there. ✨ Pray that the housing development planned off Stanneylands Road will be done with care for the whole area and environment.

Saturday 19 May

☉ Pray for Prince Harry and Meghan Markle as they are married today. Give thanks for our royal Family and pray that they will continue the example of our Queen's godly and faithful service. † Pray that our Parish Prayer walk next Sat, will give us a greater sense of the mission field on our doorstep; to know Christ and make Him known. ✨ Pray for those affected by or considering divorce. Pray that there will be reconciliation where possible but God's grace evident when not.

Liz Donoghue

Residents of Station Road

Sunday 20 May

☉ **Pentecost** Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire for justice and peace. revive your church with the breath of your Spirit and renew, with us, the face of the earth. (Prayer from the Diocese of the Amazon in response to SD Goal 15: Life on Land) † Give thanks for those who take part in our services by reading God's Word and leading Intercessions. Pray for the Holy Spirit's enabling that they may help to make the Bible a living word to us and help us to share God's heart for our world, our community and our church. 🌿 Would you feel 'out of place' in a Betting Shop or Strip Club? Pray for those who might feel similarly coming into church for the first time. Pray that Aroma Cafe and other 'open' activities will help us to break down barriers which can make 'coming to church' insurmountable for some.

Bernard East

Residents of Stretton Way

Monday 21 May

☉ Gracious and generous God, you became poor so that we might be rich. You gave the world's wealth and resources as a common inheritance of all humanity. We pray you would strengthen your church to be a beacon of hospitality for the poor. We pray that, seeing the light of Christ's love, the nations of the world may fight not to kill but to outdo each other in care for the poor, and in actions of gracious generosity. (*Justin Welby Tearfund Jubilee prayer*)

Hilary Elbourne

Residents of Sunbury Close

Tuesday 22 May

☉ Join with our Diocese today to pray for Chester Cathedral; for the Canons and staff in their witness to visitors and beyond and for the appointment of a new Dean to lead its work. † Pray for our House-groups, their leaders and members, giving thanks for the deeper fellowship they provide. 🌿 Last month's LIFT Breakfast showed the wonderful impact Hampers of Hope had in the lives of some of those helped. Pray for its work in our community.

Brenda Evans

Residents of Sutton Way

Wednesday 23 May

☉ About 1 million Rohingya people are living as refugees in Bangladesh, their homes in Myanmar have been destroyed and their conditions are desperate. Pray for those working to bring them help in Christ's name (WEC & OM). † Give thanks for those who join in worship on Wednesday mornings. Pray for those who lead the services. 🌿 Some 6 m. people act as unpaid carers for family or friends in UK. Give thanks for them and pray that they will not be isolated but have those who support them.

Alec & Betty Fairweather *Residents of Swale Close*

Thursday 24 May

☉ Pray for Christians living in Muslim countries during Ramadan, that by their gracious witness at this time their Muslim neighbours, trying to deepen their relationship with Allah, may meet with Jesus 🌿 Give thanks for those who lead our worship in music and song. May the praise and glory be to the Lord. 🌿 Give thanks for the medical care available to us in Handforth; doctors surgeries, dental practices and pharmacies. Pray for their staff.

Dawn & Connor Fairweather

Swettenham Road

Friday 25 May

☉ Ethiopia has drought and huge environmental problems but the church of 18+m is strong and and a vision for cross cultural mission is growing. Give thanks and pray that despite their material poverty they will have the needed resources (WEC) † Give thanks for our church gardens. May those who work in them and those who enjoy their labour praise the Lord of creation together. 🌿 Pray that mobile phone users will be vigilant against scams.

Mark & Jo Farrell

Residents of Swinley Close

Saturday 26 May

☉ As there is a growing mission awareness amongst Chinese Christians (typified by the 'Back to Jerusalem movement), pray for an increase in witness to the 20+m Chinese Muslims. † Give thanks and pray for Pat Grange who has now taken on a bigger role for administration at St Chad's. 🌿 Give thanks and pray for the Street Pastors who, late into the night, will be offering help to Clubbers and party goers in Manchester and many other town and city centres. Pray for good relationships with Police, Club owners and medics.

Cara & Isaac Farrell

Residents of Tabley Road

Sunday 27 May

☉ **Christians in Schools Trust**. CiST supports a Christian presence in schools throughout Stockport (and can help us in Handforth). They have four paid workers. Secondary School worker, Andy Wisdom is moving on at the end of this term. Pray for Trust Chairman, Steve Innes and lead worker, Emma Hinds, as they look to appoint new staff. The vision is to have five workers, so prayer is needed that additional funding will be given to enable this growth. † Give thanks for the strong financial report at our APCM. Pray that as we use that money to grow our work here we will continue to be generous in support of God's work elsewhere. 🏠 Give thanks for our local Police, Fire and Ambulance services. Pray for good management of their work and that they will have peace of heart and mind in times of emergency.

Gavin & Pauline Ferguson

Residents of Tame Walk

Monday 28 May

☉ A major CiST project this term is the delivery of 'It's Your Move' assemblies for Primary School leavers. Pray that many schools will book these assemblies including our 3 local Primaries. † Give thanks and pray for those who clean our church and halls. Pray for more help with routine maintenance work. 🏠 Pray for those whose only contact with St Chad's is when attending funerals, baptisms or weddings. May they find a warmth of welcome and personal contacts which can draw them back again.

Lilian Firth

Residents of Tarporley Walk

Tuesday 29 May

☉ Emma and Andy work as a CiST team with Josh Openshaw and Jill Elston. Pray for them as they plan the 'It's Your Move' assemblies together and check diaries so that they can meet all the requests which come in. † Pray for our Mission Committee. Give thanks for the abundance of information from mission contacts we receive. Pray that the Lord would guide us as a church as to how we should focus our prayers and our giving. 🏠 Give thanks and pray for Cynthia Samson and all our Handforth Parish Councillors and for Parish Clerk, Andrew Cominsky-Dawson.

Margaret Firth

Residents of Tarvin Way

Wednesday 30 May

☉ 'The 'It's Your Move' assemblies compliment the CiST team's regular school commitments - assemblies, Bible Clubs and RE teaching. Pray for this ongoing work, giving thanks for open doors into most Stockport schools. † Give thanks for the many guides available to encourage daily Bible reading. Pray for even more users at St Chad's. 🏠 Give thanks for the facilities available at Handforth Youth Centre and pray for their most effective use.

Margarita Forber

Residents of Tatton Road

Thursday 1 June

☉ Amidst all the negative publicity concerning Russia, pray for God's Kingdom advancing there. Give thanks and pray for Bible translation work continuing in more than 40 minority language groups with many millions of people. † Give thanks that those who go to Eden Mansion to lead Services are welcomed. Pray that residents and staff will know of Jesus' love for them. 🏠 Give thanks for the care available at Tabley House and pray for the staff and residents there.

Noel & Gill Foulkes

Residents of The Carriages

☉ **Friday 2 June** Chester Diocese pray today for St Catherine's, Tranmere, where Derek Marshall is a Curate. Pray for them and for so many who have previously been with us (Will Marshall & Sami in Wrexham, Peter Isherwood & Winifred in York and others you may remember with thanksgiving). † Give thanks for the Flower Festival last month and pray for the flower arranging team in their weekly labour of love. 🏠 Pray that our schools will be able to work with and support parents who are struggling to discipline children with behavioural problems.

Mark Fox

Residents of The Green

Saturday 3 June

☉ Pray for those who are being ordained as Priests in Chester today including Fiona Robinson, who had a placement with us, and Sandi Fisher, Curate in Wilmslow, at present without a Vicar. † Pray for the fellowship at Christ Church Colshaw; for those who run their Food Bank and the clients they help. 🏠 Give thanks for the trade Hotels, Restaurants and Cafes bring to Handforth. Pray for their staff, that they will know Handforth as a good place to live.

Jal Framji

Residents of The Paddock

Services This Month

Wednesday 2nd

10.30 am Road to Emmaus

Sunday 6th

9.00 am Holy Communion

10.30 am Morning Praise

6.00 pm Rhema

Wednesday 9th

10.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

Ascension day 10th

6.30 pm Holy Communion

Sunday 13th - Leprosy Mission

9.00 am Morning Prayer

10:30 am Holy Communion

6.00 pm Rhema

Wednesday 16th

10.30 am Morning Prayer

Sunday 20th - Pentecost

9.00 am Holy Communion

10.30 am Morning Praise

6.00 pm Rhema

Wednesday 23rd

10.30 am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 27th

9.00 am Morning Prayer

10:30 am Holy Communion

6.00 pm Rhema

Vicar

Revd Steve Burmester 01625 250559

Associate Minister

Revd John Knowles 01625 526531

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Ian Pettigrew 0161 4394737

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David Gilbert 01625 250485

Steve Furber 01625 522370

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Roey Knowles 01625 526531

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Carole Harding 01625 585997

Treasurer

Chris Birch 01625 251018

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Gareth Brown 01625 533303

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