

# PRAYFEB INTRODUCTION



**The message translation of 1 Timothy 2: 1 puts it firmly “The first thing I want you to do is pray. Pray every way you know how, for everyone you know.”**

There can be no more important time to pray than now. With the Covid-19 virus spreading again, a third lockdown, the death rate rising, our local hospitals nearing saturation point, and so many challenging personal stories, Anglican churches from across Poole and north Bournemouth are seeking to pray in a united way to be Hope-bringers to their neighbours and above all, to pray for God’s Kingdom to come in our towns of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. The vision is for us to pray in a united way each day during February.

If you are not used to praying, a daily prayer dairy, incorporating a biblical text, uplifting photographs, prayer topics and a prayer has been prepared to use each day. The readings are of hope and encouragement, chosen by members of our church family. Please use them or pray your own prayers for these topics. We are asking that if you have Zoom meetings, telephone calls or family with whom to share these prayers, do so, this is an amazing opportunity to share God’s love. Please pass the diary on so others can participate.

May God be with you in this quest.

<p><b>Week 1</b></p>		<p>Though the rainbow applies to the flood, it is very much a sign of hope and here we have a double rainbow, captured on Canford Heath</p>
<p><i>Monday 1<sup>st</sup></i></p>	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those who work logistically to ensure the safe distribution of the vaccine</li> <li>• Those continuing to research and develop new vaccines and protection, including the manufacture of PPE</li> <li>• Those who maintain all our essential services, placing themselves at risk</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b>  And God said, “This is the sign of the Covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come. I have set a rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth...”  Genesis 9:12-13  Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, He is the new creation. The old has passed away, behold, the new has come.  2 Corinthians 5:17</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b>  Dear Lord,  You sent us the Rainbow as a sign of hope in dark times, though not a flood, you give us the hope of the vaccine and the safety and freedom it offers and hope for the future and better times. We pray that you protect those involved in distributing the vaccine, those who are investigating alternatives and those developing more comfortable PPE.  We also ask for the protection of those who maintain the buildings where this work is being completed, the running water, the heating and other essentials.  Keep them close to you, Lord, protect them in this important work and ensure the safety of those receiving this gift.  In your holy name. Amen.</p>	
<p><i>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For those who work in our Accident and Emergency departments</li> <li>• Those in Xray, microbiology and all investigative departments.</li> <li>• The rehabilitation and outreach teams.</li> </ul>	

- Patients who are sick and in pain, relatives and friends who are anxious, especially those at a distance.

**Reading:**

Those who live in the shelter of the Most High  
will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

This I declare of the Lord:

He alone is my refuge, my place of safety;  
he is my God, and I am trusting him.

For he will rescue you from every trap  
and protect you from the fatal plague.

He will shield you with his wings,

He will shelter you with his feathers.

His faithful promises are your armour and protection.

Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night,  
nor fear the dangers of the day,

nor dread the plague that stalks in darkness,  
nor the disaster that strikes at midday.

Though a thousand fall at your side,  
though ten thousand are dying around you,  
these evils will not touch you.

But you will see it with your own eyes;  
you will see how the wicked are punished.

If you make the Lord your refuge,  
if you make the Most High your shelter,  
no evil will conquer you;  
no plague will come near your dwelling.

For he orders his angels  
to protect you wherever you go.

They will hold you with their hands  
to keep you from striking your foot on a stone.

You will trample down lions and poisonous snakes;  
you will crush fierce lions and serpents under your feet!

The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me.

I will protect those who trust in my name.

When they call on me, I will answer;

I will be with them in trouble.

I will rescue them and honour them.

I will satisfy them with a long life  
and give them my salvation."

**Psalm 91 (New Living Translation)**

**Prayer:**

Father God, we pray,

Let nothing disturb these people, nothing surprise them but if it should, give them the confidence, resources and strength to deal with the crisis.

Everything passes, and yet you do not change, your patience is infinite and for those who hold fast to God, that will lack nothing; he alone is our rock, our saviour.

	<p>Lord, enable everyone to work cohesively, to the greater good, to relieve the pain and the anguish of those suffering, as Jesus himself did.</p> <p>Protect those at risk, hold them close to you, Lord, may your touch reach them and those who love them until once again we are reunited.</p> <p>All will be well, Amen</p>
<p><i>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head teachers of all our local schools</li> <li>• School Governors and all those involved in the running of schools</li> <li>• School maintenance teams</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b> The wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure, then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:17-18</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b> Dear Lord, We pray for wisdom and for unity at this time when fear grips many; for calmness in this storm and a clear mind for each involved. Nobody is more important than another, we are all made in your image and those who believe in you are your precious children. May we bring others into your fellowship. Give us hope, Lord Jesus, give these people and us your clear direction and spread your love to everyone we meet, appreciating each person for what they contribute. Dear Lord, we thank you for the beacon of your eternal light where we can all follow. In your holy name, Amen</p>
<p><i>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residents of our local care homes and those in supported living</li> <li>• Staff within these homes</li> <li>• Families unable to visit their relatives</li> </ul> <p><b>Readings:</b> He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Isaiah 40:29 The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. Psalm 145:8 The LORD is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does. Psalm 145:17</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b> Abba, Father, We thank you for all the kindness you have sent into this world, the hand of friendship offered by so many to so many. For the residents in care homes and for those in supported living groups, for the</p>

	<p>encouragement and practical help given so willingly and with a cheerful heart. For the encouragement, too of those receiving the care, a kind word or gesture. We pray into the lack of contact for all involved and for the families anxious their relatives will deteriorate without their input. Keep your hand upon them Lord and protect them, give them patience and the skill to use new ways of making contact. Only you know the greater plan, let us live each day as the present you give us. In your name, Amen.</p>
<p><i>Friday 5<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For all who are self-isolating</li> <li>• Those who are lonely and vulnerable</li> <li>• Those suffering anxiety and depression and the staff and families who care for them</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b>  When I am afraid, I put my  Trust in you.  In God, whose word I praise –  In God I trust and am not afraid.  Psalm 56:3</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b>  Dear Lord, hear our prayer,  We praise you for your grace and mercy extended to all those who are troubled at this time.  Reach out to them Lord Jesus, in your holy name, let them focus on the light of your heavenly love, the hope of the vaccine you have sent, the knowledge that this is only a passing moment and will soon be in the past. Let us rejoice that we will eventually be returning to our church, our groups and have the physical contact so many crave. Give patience Lord to those caring for or living with those suffering from depression and anxiety, help them to encourage small and achievable goals to those affected. Keep them close to you and encourage them never to stray from your way, to reflect on your word and to rest safely and securely in the knowledge of your unfailing love.  We ask this in your name, Lord Jesus, Amen.</p>
<p><i>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All staff at our local hospitals</li> <li>• Outreach workers</li> <li>• Volunteers in hospital and community settings</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b>  Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens,  Your faithfulness to the skies  Your righteousness is like the highest mountains,  Your justice like the great deep.  You, Lord, preserve both  People and animals.</p>

	<p>How priceless is Your unfailing love, O God!</p> <p>People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. Psalm 36:5-9</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b> Father God, You are greater than the universe, your love embraces all and is never ending, thank you Father. We think of the staff, outreach workers and volunteers working tirelessly to help others, each playing their small part and we send our thanks for their skills, knowledge, kindness, love and care. They are tired but keep smiling, bless them Lord. They cry with and for those who are in pain, taking the burden on themselves, please Lord encourage them to share the burden with you, bless them Lord. For those needing counselling for what they have witnessed, help their mental pain, bless them Lord. For those going above and beyond, bless them Lord. For those who find it difficult to contain their frustration and anger, help them to see the light, bless them Lord. For those reaching out to others, give them the right words at the right time, bless them Lord. For laughter and the release that gives, bless all involved, keep them safe with the correct equipment, help them to develop new treatments, bless them Lord. All in your holy name, Amen</p>
<p><i>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching staff juggling class room teaching and online lessons, alongside teaching children remaining in the school setting</li> <li>• The mental welfare of teaching staff, computer support teams and school support workers and those providing reconditioned computers</li> <li>• Newly qualified teachers lacking confidence and in need of support</li> <li>• Children’s willingness to engage and learn</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b> Like clay in the hands of the potter, so you are in my hand. Jeremiah 18:6 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</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b> Father God, You are the greatest of all jugglers, you know every hair on our heads, every thought we have and what the future will hold, let us rest safely knowing that you will lead us down the right path, regardless. Let the teaching staff and all those involved rest assured that you are rock solid and when we reach rock bottom, your son, Jesus Christ is</p>

the rock at the bottom and only He can raise us up, providing we lean on Him.

Help these dear people through the minefield of technology they need to navigate. Keep them focused and productive, away from the scatter gun effect that will only waste their time. Take their fear away and give their managers the insight that a kind word of encouragement, goes far. Ensure the senior staff support those who are more fragile or lack confidence, that those staff are given the right tools to grow and let the inexperienced help the experienced with technology!

Give parents and children the right environment in which to work and for those who are struggling without technology, the contacts and equipment so that those children, too may thrive. Help those children who have to share one computer, have the time they need. We particularly hold up to you, Lord those families who do not have the equipment, space or calm in which children can study. We pray that they are protected and will succeed on their return to school. We thank you for those skilled and willing to upcycle computers, bless them in this mission. This is a juggling game for all, you know our needs and we hand them to you and ask for your help and guidance. In your loving name, Amen

<p><b>Week 2</b></p>		<p><b>Broadstone Recreation Ground</b></p>
<p><i>Monday 8th</i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the senior management of University Hospitals Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole</li> <li>• Strategic managers of social care services</li> <li>• Interface working between agencies</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b> For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you. Do not fear; I will help you. Isaiah 41:13</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b> Dear Lord, Grant wisdom to those governing our services, may they be surrounded by wise counsel. Guide their decisions today and onward to lead us safely. Surround them with love, and deliver them from evil. May those working to stop the pandemic globally make the breakthroughs they need to eradicate the virus. Reduce its impact on neighbouring areas, and nationally. Remove all competition and pride from their interactions, that they might work as a united glove to the good of all. Let them not forget the effect that their decisions will make to others today, tomorrow and always. Surround them with love, and deliver them from evil. In your holy name, Lord. Amen.</p>	
<p><i>Tuesday 9th</i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families coping in cramped housing conditions</li> <li>• Those suffering domestic abuse</li> <li>• Those in situations where Safeguarding is an issue</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b> Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. Matthew 11: 28-30</p>	

	<p><b>Prayer:</b>  Dear Lord, hear our prayer.  In your unfailing love reach out to those living in such unpredictable and terrible circumstances. Give them the strength to ask for help, give us pathways to reach them and not ignore the signs. Give us the strength and tenacity to continue in prayer, to read your word, for you are the Word. Enable us to put into action what is needed. Help us to tread lightly and for professionals to listen to the full facts before acting. Keep these dear these people you love dearly safe and free from danger.  We pray not only for the victims of abuse but for those delivering it, that they, too might seek the help they need and repent of their actions so that they might meet in fellowship with you.  Let us do the loving and leave you to do the judging, Lord.  We ask this in your holy Name. Amen.</p>
<p><i>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff supporting those with mental health issues</li> <li>• Those suffering from mental health issues</li> <li>• Those who are at risk of suicide</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b>  Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.  Deuteronomy 31:6; Hebrews 13:5</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b>  Calm those who suffer Lord, as you did when you stilled the storm. Still, those who suffer Lord, and keep them from harm.  Let all the tumult within them cease so they are calm and able to receive your love and care.  We pray for those that are suffering from fear and poor mental health, that we reach them and let them know it is always “ok to be not ok”. We pray Lord for their safety and engagement with treatment.  Enfold them Lord in your peace and enable them to trust in your unfailing love.  Amen</p>
<p><i>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paramedics and other ambulance staff</li> <li>• Those on the help lines</li> <li>• Those maintaining the vehicles</li> <li>• Those working in public transport</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b>  I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love.  Hosea 11:4</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b>  Holy Father,</p>

	<p>We pray for the safety of those on the front line, you are abundant in your care and we ask for your blessings to fall upon them all. Each in their own way is placing their life at risk for the care and good of others, keep them safe Lord.</p> <p>Give them the skills they need, whether medical, hearing and listening, reassuring and encouraging, technical and endearing, keep them safe Lord. Give them a cheerful disposition and let them avoid worry and fear, instead let them rely on you and your great goodness. Let them know that it is not weak to ask for help, those of colleagues or management and to ask freely for help from you, keep them safe Lord.</p> <p>We ask this in your holy Name. Amen.</p>
<p><i>Friday 12<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families of those in our hospitals with Covid 19</li> <li>• Families who have lost someone with Covid 19 or other conditions and unable to grieve fully</li> <li>• Families where a loved one is currently in hospital and those still recovering but not yet discharged</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b> He will cover you with His feathers and under His wings you will find refuge. Psalm 91:4</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b> God of hope be with them and us, calm our anxious mind and remove fear. Surround us, keep us safe until the threat passes. Surround us with love, and deliver us from evil. Protect our families, preserve us O God, and keep us in health and provision. May our community, despite enforced isolation, be united through acts of loving kindness. Surround us with love, and deliver us from evil. Reach out to those who are grieving, not purely in the short term but over time, catch them Lord when they fall and hold them in your loving hands. Let there soon be a time when a physical hug is possible again, the touch of a loved one. Surround them with your love, and deliver them from evil. Amen.</p>
<p><i>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those who work in our area to provide essential services including those in our supermarkets and those delivering food and other goods, those providing essential house maintenance and building services</li> <li>• Volunteers in these areas of work</li> <li>• Our postmen and women</li> <li>• Those working at the refuse tip and our refuse collectors</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Reading:</b>  For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.  Jeremiah 29: 11-13</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b>  Our great and loving Lord, we pray to you,  For the forgotten but for those whose job is so important, those who enable us to be fed, those working at the docks, those responsible for the new laws for imports and exports, those delivery drivers and those who need to enter people’s homes to keep them safe. Bless them and protect them.  For volunteers, delivering food or helping in other ways. Bless them and protect them.  For those delivering parcels and news and placing themselves at risk. Bless them and protect them.  For those working in dirty and tiring jobs when they may meet people who say harsh words in their own frustration. Bless them and protect them in your unfailing love, Lord Jesus, we ask this in your Name.  Amen.</p>
<p><i>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our local GP services and those working in community health</li> <li>• Public Health workers and those supporting them</li> <li>• Those in administrative posts</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b>  I am the Lord, the God of the whole human race. Is anything too hard for me?  Jeremiah 32:27</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b>  Our great and glorious God,  We hold before you all who work in the GP services with the added responsibility of rolling out the vaccine, keep them safe and protected. Give them the skills to discern who needs further investigation and intervention and who might be able to wait. We know this can be an administrative nightmare and we pray into this situation, that there are patient patients and receptive staff. They are not superhuman Lord, let them be guided by you in your majesty, only you know what the involvements are and the multiple needs of those who suffer.  Give the public health workers the tenacity and endurance they need as they are central to this pandemic. Give them the vision they need to ensure we are all safe. This is such a responsibility, let them have you at their centre, Lord Jesus. We ask this in your holy Name. Amen</p>

<p><b>Week 3</b></p>		<p><b>Poole Park</b></p>
<p><i>Monday 15<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The local council coping with reduction in their budgets and the effects of the crisis</li> <li>• Charitable organizations with reduced fundraising and incomes</li> <li>• The finances of our churches</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b>  Power belongs to You, God,  And with you, Lord, is  Unfailing love;  You reward everyone according to what they have done  Psalm 62: 11-12</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b>  Dear Lord, you have the greatness, the majesty and the wisdom always, we ask for your answer to our prayers for your children who call out to you at this time. We ask for your protection for all people.  Give Godly WISDOM, GRACE, and renewed ENERGY to those under pressure to balance the budgets in this time of emergency. We pray for transferrable skills to enable workers to meet the need and for the patience of all involved. When tension rises and tempers become frayed, give peace, Lord Jesus and grant the space and time for everything to become controlled again. We beg for tranquillity in the chaos surrounding people and for all three councils to work together in unity for the good of all.  We pray for the many charitable organisations reaching out to those in need, that they may receive the monies they crave in order to continue in their work.  We especially hold up your churches, houses of prayer and worship, we pray for the generosity of all to give what is needed to continue your work, Lord. We ask for the guidance of those responsible for the finances both locally and at deanery level – given them Godly WISDOM, GRACE, and renewed ENERGY, Lord. You who knows all things, we hold these people to you in prayer. Amen.</p>	
<p><i>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup></i></p>	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those whose jobs are at risk</li> <li>• University and college students</li> </ul>	



- The self-employed and all concerned about finances
- For Dorset Chamber of Commerce
- For debt counsellors

**Reading:**

The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them;  
 He delivers them from all their troubles.  
 The Lord is close to the Broken-hearted  
 And saves those who are crushed in spirit  
 Ps 34:17-18

**Prayer:**

Dear Lord, our maker and our king, hear our prayer. You who have given us so many wonderful skills we beg for the wellbeing and future of so many employers who are worried about their businesses and employees who are worried about their livelihoods. For those currently furloughed and are only just managing, for those who find themselves out of work and losing hope of finding work in the current climate. Lord, hear their plea and guide them, prevent them from giving up hope even though the challenge is great. Keep them calm Lord and bless them in all they do.

We pray for businesses as they manage the economic challenges and for employees sent home. Surround them with love, and deliver them from evil.

For those currently studying and not having the experience they envisaged, keep them focused and supported. For those in their last year and looking to apply for jobs, protect and direct them Lord. For the support and connections of the Chamber of Commerce, we thank you Lord, that they might direct and encourage those in business, for the good of all.

For those not managing, that they might seek the financial guidance they need and that those counselling will help them to make the difference, bless them all Lord.

In your holy Name. Amen.

*Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>***Pray for:**

- All medical staff who are having to make decisions about treatment options
- Those responsible for admissions and safe discharges
- Those receiving sick people back into the community

**Reading:**

Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.  
 Jeremiah 33:3

	<p><b>Prayer:</b> Dear Lord, Only you know the fragile balance between managing and disaster but we ask for wisdom and that due diligence is given to all who need to make such life-changing decisions. These people are only human and the burden weighs heavily upon them, give them guidance to let them lean on you, for you are the great Healer. Protect those returning from hospital or those waiting at home for a bed, with anxious family and friends unable to come close. Let them lean on you, for you are the great Healer. Lord, may we all work together in your holy Name. Amen.</p>
<p><i>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Us to be Your eyes and hands of help and comfort to others at this time</li> <li>• Our priests, lay pastoral ministers and assistants, Parochial church council members</li> <li>• Voluntary organizations and support teams in our area, for example Baby Bank, Food Bank and food distribution, prayer lines and lines to help those who are lonely, ARCH and many others</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b> I will take refuge in the shadow of Your wings Until the disaster has passed. Psalm 57: 1</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b> Dearest Lord, We pray that we each can do our part by reaching out to others, for signposting them for help when needed or for listening and caring at just the right moment. Help us to take note of the warning signs when somebody is falling, regardless of their position and pray you will guide us to pick them up and empower us with your words, Lord. We pray that the Holy Spirit will strengthen the bonds of fellowship and unity. We pray for our ministers and lay ministers, when reaching their church family can be so hard and when harsh words or unnecessary criticism can leave hurt. May they be uplifted instead, with words of encouragement and practical actions. We pray that between the pastoral teams that those who must not or do not feel able to attend worship for health reasons, are reached in imaginative ways, in order that they feel included. We pray for the right kind of impatience to worship, pray, learn, celebrate and simply be together as a church but also that Christians will be disciplined in patience, vigilance and grace, especially remembering those who are more vulnerable. Give wisdom to all in authority over our churches Lord.</p>

	<p>We thank you for the army of gracious volunteers you provide, both within the church and outside and we pray for their safety and the safety of their families.</p> <p>We ask this in your name, Lord. Amen.</p>
<p><i>Friday 19<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All staff working in and supporting the Intensive Care Units of our hospitals</li> <li>• Midwives and those working in maternity units and in the community and for health visitors and support workers</li> <li>• New mothers without support</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b> Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because He cares for you. 1 Peter 5:6-7</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b> Our Lord and Father, hear our prayer, You are the great Almighty, full of grace and mercy and we praise you Lord. Give strength, skill, guidance and energy to all in highly skilled and technical environments that each of their actions is protected by and covered in your love. We pray that the PPE is sufficient to protect them physically whilst they carry out this work and that more comfortable designs are created to enable them to work more easily. Protect these workers from the trauma they see, enable them to seek help in specialist services when needed. Help all those supporting both with the equipment, keeping these places clean, transporting patients and turning them regularly, all hard and uncompromising work. Bless them Lord. Keep our children safe, Lord and welcomed into this world with expert assistance. Bless the children and their mothers, especially those without support and bless the grandparents and family as they have to meet their newborns on a screen – we long, Lord for the day when touch is permitted and these children can be swept up once again in loving arms. Help the unsupported mothers with voluntary services and bless them all. Until we are free again, Lord Jesus enfold them all in your loving arms. Amen.</p>
<p><i>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those administering the vaccine</li> <li>• Those who have had the vaccine</li> <li>• Those awaiting the vaccine</li> <li>• Armed forces helping to set up the centres in a timely and effective way</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Reading:</b> Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us. Ephesians 3:20</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b> Lord Jesus, Thank you for this wonderful hope of an end to this problem. We pray for continuing protection and eventual reintegration. Bless those who are enabling the swift roll out of the vaccine, keep safe those involved, those awaiting and those who have had this vaccine, protect them from harm. We praise you Lord that so many have worked together tirelessly, to allow this to happen. Give people who have had the vaccine the wisdom and patience to await the second dose and not flout the rules. We ask this in your holy Name. Amen.</p>
<p><b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup></b></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those who are going into people’s home to care</li> <li>• All social care staff, including carers, both informal and informal and for social work and occupational therapy staff</li> <li>• Intermediate teams addressing both physical and mental health needs</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b> Blessed are those who have regard for the weak; The Lord delivers them in times of trouble. The Lord protects and preserves them – They are counted among the blessed in the land – Psalm 41:1-2</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b> Father God, We hand to you in prayer all those who are going into the homes of others to extend the hand of care and friendship. Often these people are the only contact vulnerable and needy people have, bless these wonderful people, give them patience and kindness in abundance to reach out the arms of love you have shown us. We pray for the professional staff under pressure, for the isolation they currently endure, not being able to share or bounce ideas, or dealing with the trauma of a situation on their own. We pray for wise management and for encouragement when all might be in turmoil. These people are team workers and find themselves in a strange world, trying to shoulder everything themselves, we pray they ask for your help and the help of others to keep them safe both mentally and physically. We ask for support for newcomers, who find themselves without the normal team support. We ask for humour to help reduce the tension, Lord you love it when we laugh.</p>

	<p>We pray Lord for and end to the situation and a return to a new normal but all in your time Lord, let us be patient. In your Name. Amen.</p>
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<p><b>Week 4</b></p>	 <p><b>Sunset at Poole Harbour with ripples</b></p>
<p><i>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents trying to provide home schooling to their children</li> <li>• Those without computers and those individuals and organizations refurbishing computers for families in need</li> <li>• Families in crisis and intervention for them, both statutory and voluntary, for instance, Home-Start, Baby Bank, Food agencies, dept counsellors</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b>  He tends his flock like a Shepherd;  He gathers the lambs in His Arms  And carries them close to His heart;  He gently leads those that have young.  Isaiah 40:11</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b>  Dear Lord,  You are the great and perfect Father, the wonderful teacher, we hold up all parents, be they experienced, have skill sets they can transfer or those who are struggling. Let agencies reach out to those in crisis, whether the domestic situation or lack of technology or skills in using technology, please Lord, let others step in and help and give them the grace to do this. Bless them in this quest.  We pray for all parents who are trying to juggle their own jobs, alongside teaching their children. For parents with several children and only one computer, when lessons are delivered at the same time. Bless them.  We pray into this situation and pray also that the schools will reopen as the vaccine unrolls.  Hear us in our pain, offer solace to those who need it and know that you Lord are always there, always reliable, always kind and always loving.  In your holy Name. Amen</p>
<p><i>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup></i></p>	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All those awaiting treatment that has been delayed because of the impact of Covid 19</li> </ul>



- Those with other serious health conditions where treatment has had to go ahead but with a risk of contracting Covid 19
- Families and partners supporting those anxious about the delay
- Those not reporting serious illness for fear of “being a burden” on the system

**Reading:**

Be still, and know that I am God:

Psalm 46:10

Lord, my strength and my fortress, my refuge in time of distress ...

Jeremiah 16:16

**Prayer:**

Dear Lord,

Forgive us, for not seeking your help, and thinking we can do it on our own. So often we make excuses for not talking to you, when we forget that you Lord are our Father, and we your children.

We need to thank you Lord for so many things, even the air we breathe. At this time Lord, with the pandemic still raging through our population, the help given by so many volunteers is uplifting, so many from all walks of life. While we pray to you through your son JESUS CHRIST, to keep our friends and family safe, we also ask that you will be with all those volunteers as they train for various duties. Reach out to those struggling in silence, that they may know your love and that people are there to help and care, if only they ask.

Lord be with us all.

We ask this in your precious Son’s name. Amen.

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



**Pray for:**

- A time when the crisis is history and we are all free again
- A new beginning and not a return to the old ways
- A beautiful future for young and old alike and a new relationship and strength in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ
- Those who maintain our heathland, parks, gardens, harbour and seafont

**Reading:**

Therefore, I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Mark 11:24

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them, and they with me.

Revelation 3:20

**Prayer:**

Father God we praise you and give thanks for your love and goodness.

We thank you for answers to our prayers and that you are with us in all circumstances.

	<p>We thank you for the privilege of working alongside people in our towns showing them the love and hope of God’s heart.  We thank you for those who maintain our places of beauty, enabling us to enjoy your wonderful land.  We pray Lord that you would release your transforming love, power and hope on each individual within those towns, and we ask that you give us wisdom in our outreach so that your Kingdom may come on earth as in Heaven.  Father God we step out in Your confidence, strength and guidance to build your Kingdom to the glory and honour of Jesus, bringing hope and light to the world.  In Jesus name Amen.</p>
<p><i>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The work of local foodbanks during this time</li> <li>• Those involved with other food initiatives</li> <li>• Faithworks, and the uniting of organizations who offer help</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b>  The Lord says, “I will rescue those who love me.  I will protect those who trust in my name.  When they call on me, I will answer;  I will be with them in trouble.  I will rescue them and honour them  I will satisfy them with a long life  and give them my salvation.”  <b>Psalm 91</b> (New Living Translation)</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b>  Thank you, Lord, our God and King,  For the generosity of those in our neighbourhood who unfailingly give food, time and effort to help others who are in crisis. Thank you for Faithworks, who organize this initiative and others and for other groups, for example, Poole Pantry, community larders to name a few. Protect all who work towards alleviating the pain and anguish of others.  Thank you for the supermarkets and their generosity and for the workers within those places, thank you for the delivery drivers and army of volunteers, willing to place themselves at risk for the good of others.  We ask you to protect, bless and give your love to those involved and those receiving.  Thank you, Lord. Amen.</p>
<p><i>Friday 26<sup>th</sup></i></p>	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All staff working in our local hospital wards</li> <li>• Those working with people who have learning difficulties and others, who may not understand the current risks</li> <li>• Those working within residential settings and support workers</li> </ul>



**Reading:**

God is our refuge and strength,  
An ever-present help in trouble.  
Therefore, we will not fear,  
Psalm 46:1  
I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go.  
Genesis 28:15 NIV

**Prayer:**

Wonderful Father and gracious King,  
You have shown us the way through your Word, now let us put that into action.

We ask for patience, for forbearance in this pandemic for all staff working on wards, whether in the physical or mental health setting. Give them your blessing Lord in this important work, remembering that those who clean, porter somebody, bring the post or bring around a cuppa with a smile, are just as important in your eyes and that a ward does not work without many in the background. We pray for kindly words, time as well as timely intervention and skilled work, both medically and from a rehabilitation perspective. Protect all including those carrying out tests and processing them, they are precious to you, Lord.

We ask for protection and especial care for those who do not or no longer understand the dangers of this disease and cannot understand why they cannot have visitors, be especially kind and bless them Lord.

We pray for testing when people come out of hospital so all in the care setting are safe and most of all, we pray for an end to this hideous disease and with it, greater understanding from us all to the needs of others.

In your Name. Amen.

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



**Pray for:**

- Our more vulnerable families
- Those who have been victims of human trafficking or modern-day slavery
- Those who have been abused or who are rough living at the moment
- Organizations able to offer support and care and for the refuge

**Reading:**

Do not be afraid – I will save you.  
I have called you by name – you are mine.  
When you pass through deep waters,  
I will be with you;  
Your troubles will not overwhelm you.  
Isaiah 43: 1-2

	<p><b>Prayer:</b> Dear Lord, We call out in your Name to help these people and guide those who are in a place to offer a safe place for them to stay, away from danger; the skills to start to address the psychological trauma of these terrible and frightening situations. For those causing harm to be brought to justice and to true repentance, help them Lord Jesus. To those living in poverty, take this burden away from them and help them to be directed in how best to manage. For those running away from abuse, or rough living due to addictions, mental health or other issues, protect them Lord, lead them to a haven and provide food and other basic necessities for them. We pray for statutory and non-statutory organisations and charities, for their workers and volunteers, for the street chaplains. Lord Jesus, “hear as your children cry out to you in prayer.” Amen.</p>
<p><i>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup></i></p> 	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our local police</li> <li>• Covid 19 enforcement officers</li> <li>• Those addressing anti-social behaviour and those who are victims</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading:</b> Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them. Matthew 18:19-20</p> <p><b>Prayer:</b> Dear and great Lord, We ask for your grace and mercy on our local police, with such a difficult task trying to make people obey the rules. Their job is risky and precarious, with unruly people placing their lives in jeopardy. We ask for their protection and the ability to manage the work-life balance well, protecting their families and their relationships. We also ask for your protection for those ensuring the Covid 19 rules and regulations are maintained, keep them safe Lord. We ask for these two groups to be empathetic when needed and to rule with equality and care, we pray they call on you before attending any incident. Hold in your hands those trying to address the issues of anti-social behaviour, give them discernment and the ability to find an acceptable route forward to peace and fairness. We pray for the police and crime commissioner and his staff. He also has the lead nationally for mental health and suicide risk, give him wisdom especially at this time when Covid is having awful repercussions on our communities and their wellbeing. We pray for those that are suffering from fear and poor mental health and beg</p>

	<p>you to guide them to ask for help when needed or that their families or friends signal that need for help.</p> <p>We ask this in your Name, Lord Jesus. Amen.</p>
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All texts are taken from Holy Bible, Today's New International Version (TNIV) unless otherwise stated.

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