



# CROMERCHURCH

transforming lives with Jesus Christ

## Prayer Diary - August 2020

*Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on Cromer.  
Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on the Church.  
Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on me. Amen.*

**This month's diary continues to reflect the lock down caused by the coronavirus pandemic. We have not included events, because the situation is so fluid.**

**Worship will continue to be streamed over the Internet from Cromer Church at 10.30am on Sundays and Wednesdays.** (To access it, either use this link: [www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ySrZRxcovTLvIL136AHuQ/](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ySrZRxcovTLvIL136AHuQ/) and click the "Subscribe" button to get to the CromerChurch channel, or go to YouTube and search for 'Cromer Church'.) **Some form of physical service will also be offered from Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August onwards. Please check the Weekly Update for news of what is happening.**

### PRAYER SUGGESTIONS FOR AUGUST

*Please check weekly publicity for details and updates, especially if lockdown is eased further. As events start happening, they will need prayer support.*

*This month's mission focus is our own local mission.*

*See below for all mission partner requests.*

**Sat 1** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching via the Internet; our mission in Cromer*

**Sun 2** *Our services happening online today  
Our church leaders; our bishops and archdeacons*

- Mon 3**      *Mission Partner: Andrew Leake*
- Tue 4**      *The persecuted church (see below)*
- Wed 5**      *Holidaymakers and businesses that serve them*
- Thu 6**      *Mission Partner: the Bible Society*
- Fri 7**        *Brexit decisions*
- Sat 8**        *Tomorrow's worship and teaching; our mission in Cromer*
- Sun 9**        *Our services happening today, both online and physically*  
*Our church leaders; our church governing bodies (synods)*
- Mon 10**      *Mission Partners: Canaan*
- Tue 11**      *South American countries affected by COVID-19*
- Wed 12**      *Emergency services*
- Thu 13**      *Mission Partner: CPAS*
- Fri 14**      *The development of vaccines and treatments for COVID-19*
- Sat 15**      *Tomorrow's worship and teaching; our mission in Cromer*
- Sun 16**      *Our services happening today, both online and physically*  
*Our church leaders; other local church leaders*
- Mon 17**      *Control of pollution - especially with so much plastic about*
- Tue 18**      *Mission Partner: London City Mission*
- Wed 19**      *Spiritual growth over the summer*
- Thu 20**      *Teachers preparing for next term*
- Fri 21**      *Mission Partner: Michelle Proctor*
- Sat 22**      *Tomorrow's worship and teaching; our mission in Cromer*
- Sun 23**      *Our services happening today, both online and physically*  
*Our church leaders; our small group leaders*
- Mon 24**      *Mission Partner: Prison Fellowship*
- Tue 25**      *Care home residents and staff*
- Wed 26**      *For a greater openness to the Holy Spirit*
- Thu 27**      *Mission Partner: Scripture Union*

- Fri 28**      *People affected by multiple disasters - war, famine, pandemic etc.*
- Sat 29**      *Tomorrow's worship and teaching; our mission in Cromer*
- Sun 30**      *Our services happening today, both online and physically*  
*Our church leaders; our national church leaders*
- Mon 31**      *Mission Partner: Tearfund*

**The persecuted church: Turkey** (Contact: Ken Nash)

Turkey is often ranked among the top ten holiday destinations in the world. Its cultural capital - under its former name of Constantinople - was the centre of Eastern Christianity for more than 1000 years. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, at least 3.25 million Christians were murdered by the Turks. Since that genocide, the status of the remaining Christians has fluctuated. The seizing of church buildings has intensified in recent years; the press is hostile to Christians, a new school textbook has been introduced in which 13-year-olds are encouraged to discriminate against Christians. Since President Erdogan's election in 2009, the rights of Christians to practise their faith are being rapidly eroded, and second-class status is being re-imposed on them.

*Barnabas*

**MISSION PARTNER PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Andrew Leake (CMS/Compassion International)** (Contact: David Leake)

This month, please:

- pray for Argentina, as we continue to move towards a peak in COVID-19 cases. The country's economy is at breaking-point and poverty levels have soared;
- pray for our kids. Tomas is still waiting for the resumption of his work. COVID-19 travel restrictions will make it hard for him to get to his eventual work posting. Cecilia's plans for postgraduate studies in the US have had to be put on hold. Carolina continues with her final year at a veterinary school. As her studies and exams are online, she is unable to advance with the practical part of professional training;
- Andrew underwent knee surgery, and we are grateful that this could be successfully undertaken during the pandemic, as he was in a lot of pain.

## **Bible Society** (Contact: David Orsborne)

Find prayer resources at [www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/pray-with-us](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/pray-with-us) or download *Prayer in Action* from [www.biblesociety.org.uk/content/get-involved/word-in-action/files/2020/pia-summer-2020.pdf](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/content/get-involved/word-in-action/files/2020/pia-summer-2020.pdf).

This month, please give thanks for Bible Society's work and pray:

- that the latest edition of the 'Bible in Transmission' newsletter, which has several interesting articles about the Christian's response to the pandemic, will be widely read and acted on ([www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/bible-in-transmission/the-bible-in-transmission-summer-2020](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/bible-in-transmission/the-bible-in-transmission-summer-2020));
- for the impact of 'Inside Out'. Produced in collaboration with the Salvation Army, 'Inside Out' is a "Bible discovery guide, connecting the life-changing words of the Bible with everyday life." Aimed primarily at young adults (but useful for all ages) it's a book you could give to someone wanting to understand more about the Bible and move on in their everyday Christian faith ([www.biblesociety.org.uk/products/9780564049073](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/products/9780564049073));
- for the work of Open the Book - especially our local teams - that, as schools re-open from September, Bible Society will be able to find safe ways for them to resume their important work of sharing Bible stories ([www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book));
- for the 'Pass it on' project, which encourages us to think about the Bible verses we'd like to pass on to the next generation. Get involved by reading some of the stories about how this has shaped lives, and think about your own verses to pass on ([www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/pass-it-on-the-bible-verse-that-matters-to-me](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/pass-it-on-the-bible-verse-that-matters-to-me)).

## **Canaan Christian Centre** (Contact: Evelyn Smith)

This month:

- please continue to pray for Incredible Kids Club families. They enjoyed the fruit bags we took them last month and another child filled in their work sheet. In July we were able to give each family a craft bag filled with craft materials to keep them busy in August. We are investigating restarting the club for just ten children in September or October. There's lots to look into for safeguarding the 5-10 year olds; much wisdom is needed. It has been good to see children and parents, but they are having very difficult times financially and we are privileged to help them;
- Kornel in Hungary has been able to have three camps for the children, but no English team members have come this year, so he is very tired.

He has another two camps, so pray for strength and safety for all involved and for the teaching programme;

- phone calls, and coffee times for six at a time in Canaan gardens, have proved very beneficial to those who come to the monthly luncheon. We are praying about restarting this for a small group of older people.

### **CPAS** (Contact: Jane Loades)

CPAS invite us to join with them in praying for the present situation of the COVID-19 virus:

- please pray for the work of CPAS and how it has had to change and how it is working out the practical and spiritual implications of its work at this time;
- following government advice CPAS are enabling their staff to work from home. Please pray that this will work well;
- CPAS encourage us to pray for the three main challenges at this time - to remain strong in faith, to maintain the community of the Body of Christ and to know and discern how the current situation can serve as a witness to the hope that is within us;
- please pray for all those involved with presenting CPAS on-line courses;
- please pray for CPAS in its important role as patron for many churches including our own.

Thank you for praying for CPAS in this current situation.

### **London City Mission** (Contact: Elizabeth Bridger)

This month:

- a recent report from LCM tells us that the recent pandemic has awakened a spiritual hunger 'right across UK' and, we hear, worldwide! The harvest is indeed plentiful, but the labourers are few. LCM's concern is to reach London's neediest and least reached, particularly the broken families and the homeless;
- through the pandemic missionaries have been working to inspire local churches, and often serve in food banks... to be where the neediest people congregate or suffer in silence in many cases... where people have given up hope. They are holding online Bible studies, shopping for isolated people and providing meals for the homeless. The aim is to share the Gospel of Christ alongside practical compassion;
- the work goes on with the teenage boys addicted to knife crime and gang violence;

- the call continues to be as it has for over 180 years: 'Let the glory of God and the salvation of souls be your chief, your only end.'  
And that should be true for all of us, not just trained missionaries!

**Michelle Proctor (SIM)** (Contact: Tim Britton)

This month:

- give thanks that so far we have had no patients admitted with COVID 19;
- pray for us as the number of cases and deaths increase in Zambia; there are now cases in our district;
- pray for stamina and wisdom as my responsibilities have increased as we are short of medical staff (due to volunteers not being able to come due to travel restrictions).

**Prison Fellowship** (Contact: Janet Rosier)

This month:

- as prisons begin to lift some lockdown restrictions, pray that prisoners and staff will stay safe and not pick up the coronavirus;
- pray that prisons may see a way for Sycamore Tree courses to begin again, so that men and women get the chance to consider their past and make positive choices for the future. (Sycamore Tree is a restorative justice programme where prisoners meet a victim of crime and see the consequences of their actions.)
- Angel Tree is a programme which allows parents in prison to send a Christmas present to their child. As prisoners apply for this, and as volunteers begin planning for this year, pray for wisdom and creativity to overcome any obstacles caused by coronavirus restrictions so as many presents as possible may be given.
- pray for the Letter Link programme that even more men and women in prison would take the opportunity to connect with a supportive volunteer through receiving and, if possible, replying to a letter;
- research suggests BAME prisoners are less likely to have a prison job or participate in offender behaviour programmes. Pray that any barriers to participation would be removed, allowing for real rehabilitation for all.

**Scripture Union** (Contact: David Orsborne)

This month, please give thanks for Scripture Union's work and pray:

- for the many Scripture Union summer activities taking place online during August. In particular, pray for the success of this new approach, developed in response to the coronavirus pandemic, that many children

and young people will encounter Jesus for the first time and respond to His call ([content.scriptureunion.org.uk/summeronline](http://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/summeronline));

- for the 95% of children and young people who aren't in church. In particular, pray that Scripture Union's '95 Campaign' will inspire, encourage and equip those with a heart for that 95% to step out and engage with them where they are ([www.vimeo.com/274854630](http://www.vimeo.com/274854630) and [content.scriptureunion.org.uk/95-campaign](http://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/95-campaign));
- for the worldwide mission of Scripture Union in these difficult times. As a prompt for prayer, you can read the story of SU and its work in 'A tale of two visions' and 'God's word in a young world'. Both were reissued for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SU in 2017 and you can get them free from [www.dropbox.com/sh/95xardej9oy1nx0/AADPoihO3QbcujiQ8zJZ3wJ-a?dl=0](http://www.dropbox.com/sh/95xardej9oy1nx0/AADPoihO3QbcujiQ8zJZ3wJ-a?dl=0);
- 'Connecting You' is SU's supporter and prayer magazine. It has the latest news on their mission to share the good news of Jesus with the next generation and daily prayer requests to support this exciting work. Contact David Orsborne for a copy or get it and other prayer resources at [content.scriptureunion.org.uk/story/prayers-june-august-2020](http://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/story/prayers-june-august-2020) and [content.scriptureunion.org.uk/support-us/prayer](http://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/support-us/prayer).

### **Tearfund** (Contacts: Judith Anderson and Lynda Brown)

This month:

- 77 faith leaders have asked Chancellor Rishi Sunak to cancel international debt for poorer countries to help them fight the Pandemic. Pray that the UK Government will hear and respond to this plea;
- there is a desperate fight in Afghanistan against coronavirus. A stigma is associated to reporting deaths from COVID-19, so the 1000 deaths reported is likely to be very much higher. Many hospitals and clinics have been destroyed in past conflicts. Please ask God to help and comfort the people of Afghanistan and give courage to TEARFUND's partner organisations;
- in the DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo) clean water is very hard to get or reach. TEARFUND partners are working hard to install huge water tanks to help communities wash their hands during the pandemic. Thank God for the new tanks and pray that more will be able to be installed across the DRC.

Please send prayer requests for September to Tim Britton  
by Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August.